

Expanded Visitor Access Acute and Long Term Care Takes Effect Beginning June 30

These guidelines do not replace clinical and operational judgement of operators.

When making decisions and plans to support visitation, operators use discretion, assess risk and remain client centered. Health facilities across the province have different physical infrastructure. The numbers of individuals permitted in each space may differ from site to site, and room to room. Sites may consider visitation in other spaces, provided physical distancing and other infection prevention and control measures can continue to be met. Presence of individuals in the room must not interfere with ability to provide clinical care and remains the priority above the allowances stated below.

Vaccination status is no longer a requirement for visitation. Screening is still required upon entry, using appropriate screening algorithms for managing visitors. Visitors are required to sign in and out and perform hand hygiene. Operators will maintain records of visitors who attend the facility for 30 days.

Visitation may be impacted in the case of a confirmed or potential outbreak in the facility, or upon direction of the Chief Provincial Public Health Officer.

- General visitors are not permitted during an outbreak, or to Orange or Red Zone patients/residents, except in End of Life situations.
- **Designated Caregiver (DC)** access to Orange and Red patients/residents should continue to occur virtually wherever possible. In-person visitation is considered in order to meet care needs of the resident /patient.

Definitions:

Designated caregivers (DC) - provide physical, psychological and emotional support, as deemed important by the patient/resident. This care can include support in decision making, care coordination and continuity of care. Designated caregiver can include family members, close friends or other caregivers and are identified by the patient/resident or substitute decision maker. (Note: Designated caregiver language replaces essential care partner and designated family caregiver.)

General visitor - Family and friends who visit for social reasons. Their time with the patient/resident is discretionary and short term. They are not involved in the care of the patient/resident.

Designated Caregivers

Location	Maximum	PPE	Physical Distancing	Appointment
Patient/Resident Room	Up to 4 may be identified, with up to 2 attending at a time. DC may accompany the patient/resident in locations outside their room, provided physical distancing can be maintained from other patients/residents and DCs, and their presence does not impinge on another patients'/residents' ability to participate/move throughout the building.	Medical Mask Provided by facility	Not required.	Not required
End of Life Patient/Resident Room	Maximum 4 may be identified and attend at a time.	Medical Mask Provided by facility Additional PPE may be required according to Zone	Not required.	Site/Operator determination.
<u>Acute Only:</u> Emergency Department/ Urgent Care	2 DCs may be identified and may attend.	Medical Mask Provided by facility	Encouraged from other patients and DCs	Not required.
<u>Acute Only:</u> Outpatient, including Diagnostics, Renal	2 DCs may be identified and may attend.	Medical Mask Provided by facility	Encouraged from other patients and DCs	Not required.
<u>Acute Only:</u> Pediatrics	Up to 4 may be identified, with up to 2 attending at a time. 2 DC may attend at a time. One may remain overnight with the child.	Medical Mask Provided by facility	Not required.	Not required.
<u>Acute Only:</u> Cancer Care	Up to one Designated Caregiver is allowed for some appointments (e.g., radiation therapy). Other outpatient treatments, including chemotherapy, remain restricted. Two DCs may attend at a time for pediatrics	Medical Mask Provided by facility	Encouraged from other patients and DCs	Not required.

General Visitors

Location	Maximum	PPE	Physical Distancing	Appointment
<u>Acute Only:</u> Patient Room	Number determined by the site/operator based on the space the visitation is taking place in.	Medical Mask Provided by facility	Is encouraged at all times	During Visiting hours
<u>PCH Only:</u> Resident Room	Number determined by the site/operator based on the space the visitation is taking place in.	Medical Mask Provided by facility	Is encouraged at all times	Required
End of Life Patient/Resident Room	Number determined by the site/operator based on the space the visitation is taking place in.	Medical Mask Provided by facility Additional PPE may be required according to Zone	Is encouraged at all times	Site/Operator determination.
<u>PCH Only:</u> Visitation Shelter or Designated Visitation Room	Number determined by the site/operator based on the space the visitation is taking place in.	Medical Mask Provided by facility	Is encouraged at all times	Required
Outdoor – space and weather permitting	Number determined by the site/operator based on the space the visitation is taking place in.	Not Required	Is encouraged at all times	Acute – Site/Operator determination. PCH - Appointment according to site guidelines
<u>Acute Only:</u> Emergency Department/ Urgent Care Outpatient, including Diagnostics, Renal, Cancer Care	No General Visitors, except in End of Life situations. (See above)			

References

- Better Together: Re-Integration of Family Caregivers as Essential Partners in Care in a Time of COVID-19 https://www.cfhi-fcass.ca/docs/default-source/itr/tools-and-resources/bt-re-integration-of-family-caregivers-as-essential-partners-covid-19-e.pdf?sfvrsn=5b3d8f3d_2

Change Tracker

June 28, 2022

1. Replaced Designated Family Caregiver (DFC) and Essential Care Partner (ECP) language with Designated Caregiver (DC).
2. Expanded the number of DC who may identified and the number of individuals who may visit at a time.
3. Updated the PPE requirements for DC and for outdoor visits
4. Added language to support operators in making individualized decisions based on site and situation characteristics.

March 1, 2022

1. Expanded visitor access – Acute Care and Long Term Care guidelines replaces the Acute Care Essential Care Partner and Visitor Guidelines and the Long Term Care Resident Visitation Principles
2. Removed the vaccination requirement for general visitors and designated family caregivers.