

December 29th, 2021

Dear Families,

As we continue to work hard to keep our home COVID free, we are required now to respond to the rapid increase in the OMICRON virus.

The spread has grown from under a thousand (1,000) per day during first week of December to over ten thousand as of today, December 29th, 2021. Experts expect if we do not do something collectively, we will see numbers in the twenty to thirty thousand by mid January.

As an example of new measures happening in the province, today long-term care has restricted visitors and now only allows a designated care person inside their facilities. The designated person must be double vaccinated (preferably triple vaccinated) and will be subject to rapid testing every visit and must have a negative result to visit. In addition, they are asked to wear a medical grade, preferably N95 mask, and a face shield during each visit.

We understand that your loved one is palliative and at end of life and visits are essential. However, we must maintain the wellbeing of our staff team because without them we can not care for any patient.

Enclosed in this letter is our new visitor policies that will be implemented in a staggered approach.

Your cooperation is needed more than ever. If as a visitor, you do not comply you will be asked to leave the building until you can comply. If repeated non-compliance we will ban a visitor. We do not wish to do this however, it is for the health and safety of our staff team, patients and other visitors.

We thank you for your cooperation, compassion, and support in keeping our home COVID FREE. If you have any question, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Debbie Robinson, Reg. N. CHPCN(c)
Director of Nursing Services

Clare Freeman, BA, CYW, MSW, RSW
Chief Executive Officer

cc. Susan Repa, Director of Program and Services

Visitor Policies As of December 30th, 2021

MASK & SOCIAL DISTANCING

- **Strict adherence to complying with mask:** Mask must be pinched at the top of the nose, under the chin and on all the time-if it becomes wet, please ask for another mask. Mask wearing is the most effective way to reduce spread. We will supply a medical grade mask however, if you have a form fitting N95 mask this is preferred. We ask that you have a new clean mask upon entry.
- **Shields-** You will be required to always wear a shield in addition to your mask

NOTE: If our team finds family members without mask or under the nose, they will ask you to leave until you can comply. If any family refuses or is found to consistently not follow rule you may be banned. We **MUST** work together.

- **6 Feet apart-** Please remain six feet apart from our staff team and others, including non-household visitors in the room with you and during screening.

VISITING/SCREENING HOURS: Everyday

9 am to 10 am-

No screening available between 10 am -12 pm, thus no visitors will be permitted to enter

12pm-7pm

Visitors are welcomed to remain in building for all hours once admitted during screening hours

VISITORS

- **Up to 4 four close family and friends on visitors list. This will be implemented January 3rd, 2021.** However, we ask you to consider reducing visits today.
- **Only two visitors per day. This will be implemented January 3rd, 2021**
- **Only 1 (one) visitor at any given time** will be allowed to visit in the room or be in the building. Please make sure to pre-plan visits with your loved ones. Once a single visitor is in the building others will be directed to a window visit.
- **All visitors** will need to complete pre-screening app prior to arrival- (go to <https://kemphospice.org/covid-19-screening/> or scan the CODE below or on window). You can show the results on your phone or print a copy.
- **Rapid testing:** All visitors will be rapid tested every two days.

- **Vaccinated visitors:** Will continue to show proof of vaccination for 2/3 valid doses and Identification. As of January 3rd, 2022 we will upload proof of vaccination so that it will not be required to show at each visit
- **Unvaccinated visitors:** Will need to have had 1 Nasal Pharyngeal covid test completed (negative) before first visit into the hospice. Unvaccinated visitors will be responsible for the expense of this test). They will be given a rapid antigen every two days. A COVID testing passport will be provided and must be shown to screener at each visit.
- **Numbers for rooms:** Visitors will be given a number to hang outside of the door to indicate how many visitors are currently in the room, please return the number to the screener/staff when you are leaving.
- **Window visits:** Will be permitted provided the visitors outside maintain social distance from other outside visitors and mask are always properly worn.
- **NO OPENING DOORS:** No visitor will be permitted to open any exterior doors within the building to allow for others to either enter the building or to stand by and talk.
- **Enclosure visits-** Please speak to residential manager or RN to pre-arrange inside enclosure visit. An enclosure visit is a screened in area whereby outside visitors can sit inside and visit through the screen while inside visitors are on the other side of screen with the patient.

QR CODE for Pre-Screening prior to arrival or at door:

