**BETHESDA CARE HOME**

**VISITING POLICY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

During the Corona virus pandemic, we regret to have to restrict visiting to keep everyone as safe as possible.

In order to protect the patients in the Hospice and the residents in the Home as well as all the staff who care for them we have had to put the following restrictions in place. In accordance with Government guidelines, these will apply from

**26 04 2021**:

* **Three designated visitors, per patient/resident inside the building** complying with Infection Control Measures such as face masks and physical distancing of at least 2 metres. This can be three separate designated visitors. These visits should be pre-arranged with the Administration Staff. The visits will be available initially between 1.00pm and 4.30pm.
* At present inside visits will take place in the resident’s own room (unless other arrangements have been put in place). Visitors **must not** leave the room to enter the main building and must remain in the resident’s room throughout. Physical contact is permitted for essential visits only e.g. end of life. If any assistance is required when in the room, please pull the cord or press the wrist button and a member of staff will be glad to come and help.

* Also in keeping with National Guidance, **outside visiting** can have up 6 people from 6 different households, plus children under twelve.
* **All visits must be booked in advance**. Out with the visiting times, visitors may still arrange a visit with agreement from senior staff. In the case of end of life stage, we will endeavour to allow or expand visiting. This will be considered on an individual basis as and when it occurs by management and senior clinical staff.
* Personal Protective Equipment **(PPE) must be worn** and visitors will be supervised for donning and doffing. Bins have been provided for any disposing of PPE when visiting is finished. Hand sanitiser is available outside the main door at reception which should be used prior to entering and again on exiting the building. Hand washing before a visit is the best recommendation for infection control.
* **Lateral Flow Device testing** of all designated visitors will take place on each visit on arrival at the Hospice/Care Home.
* Phoning or using Facetime, WhatsApp, Skype, Attend Anywhere/Near Me software is encouraged and can be facilitated by Bethesda staff, (ask staff for details on how to set this up) particularly for patients/residents who are nursed in bed or unable to mobilise outdoors. Please avoid sharing mobile devises with the patients/residents.
* If the designated visitor has a ***fever, new continuous cough or loss or change in sense of taste or smell, or has been in a household where someone has any of these symptoms,* PLEASE DO NOT COME TO THE BUILDING.**
* No visit is allowed if the designated visitor has suspected or confirmed COVID-19 or if they have been advised to self-isolate for any reason.
* No visit is allowed if the designated visitor has a person from a higher Tier area staying within the same household.
* All visitors must wear a face covering and/or visor when in the Garden/Outdoor area on an arranged visit.
* Visitors must remember to observe physical distancing of at least 2 metres/6.5 Feet.
* All visitors **MUST** follow the Visiting Policy or visiting rights may be withdrawn. As required by Public Health, all visitor contact details will be documented and retained. This is part of the Test and Protect process.
* Please be aware the situation with the Corona virus and Scottish Government advice is changing all the time.

**Updated 26 April 2021 Please** Note: Visiting can only take place if the Hospice/Home meet the criteria detailed by the Scottish Government and Public Health Scotland of being COVID free throughout the pandemic or if all affected residents have fully recovered and no residents have had symptoms for 28 days.