

**SECTION:** ADMINISTRATION  
INFECTION CONTROL

**SOP:** ADM-G-005  
IC-A-048

**SUBJECT:** VISITING DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

**PAGE:** 1 OF 15  
**DATE:** July 2020

**REVISIONS:** Sept. 9, 2020; Oct. 7, 2020; Nov. 16, 2020; Nov. 23, 2020; Dec. 26, 2020; Jan. 21, 2021; Feb. 24, 2021; Mar. 22, 2021; May 26, 2021; June 1, 2021; June 9, 2021; July 13, 2021; July 20, 2021; Aug. 25, 2021; Sept. 1, 2021; Sept. 21, 2021; Oct. 19, 2021; Dec. 15, 2021; Dec. 22, 2021; Dec. 30, 2021

**LAST REVISION:**

January 12, 2022

## POLICY

To help maintain the emotional and physical well-being of Ivan Franko Home residents, and lessen the impact of social isolation from their loved ones during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Home will support residents in receiving visitors, while at the same time mitigating the risk of exposure to COVID-19 by ensuring that necessary infection control measures are in place to protect the health and safety of residents, staff and visitors, and to help maintain the Home free of an outbreak.

The Home will follow the Directives, Guidance and recommendations issued by the Government of Ontario and Public Health authorities in implementing required visiting procedures and appropriate infection control measures.

The updated Ministry of Long-Term Care's "Guidance Document for Long-Term Care Homes issued on January 4, 2022 sets out additional measures in response to the surge in COVID-19 cases due to the Omicron variant, that include:

- mandatory third (booster) doses of COVID-19 vaccines for all Caregivers and Support Workers
- testing and isolation requirements for Caregivers.

This policy and the procedures will be revised as necessary, as the pandemic situation evolves and government guidance is amended. The local Public Health Unit (PHU) may also provide direction and/or restrictions on visitors to the Home, depending on the specific situation. Any orders made by Medical Officers of Health under Section 22 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act (HPPA) and/or advice, instructions and recommendations of a Medical Officer of Health under the Reopening Ontario Act (ROA) supersedes the Home's policies and procedures.

Non-compliance with this policy and infection control measures may result in the discontinuation of visits for the non-compliant visitor.

## DEFINITIONS

### Essential visitors

- Persons visiting a Home to meet an essential need related to the operations of the Home or residents that could not be adequately met if the person does not visit the Home.
- Are the only type of visitors allowed when there is an outbreak in the Home or area of the Home, or when a resident has failed screening, is symptomatic or in isolation.

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- There are 4 types of essential visitors:
  1. Persons visiting residents who are receiving end-of-life care for compassionate reasons
  2. Government inspectors with a statutory right of entry to carry out their duties (e.g. inspectors under the Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007; the Health Protection and Promotion Act; the Electricity Act, 1998; the Occupational Health and Safety Act)
  3. Support workers who visit the Home to provide support to the critical operations of the Home or to provide essential services to residents.
    - Essential services provided by support workers include but are not limited to:
      - assessment, diagnostic, intervention/rehabilitation, and counselling services by regulated health professionals such as physicians and nurse practitioners
      - Assistive Devices Program vendors (e.g. oxygen therapy vendors)
      - moving a resident in or out of the Home
      - social work services
      - legal services
      - post-mortem services
      - emergency services (e.g. such as those provided by first responders)
      - maintenance services, such as those required to ensure the structural integrity of the Home and the functionality of the Home's HVAC mechanical, electrical, plumbing systems, and services related to exterior grounds and winter property maintenance
      - food and drink delivery
      - Canada Post mail services and other courier services
      - Election officials/workers.
  4. Caregivers who visit the Home to provide direct care to meet the essential needs of a particular resident.
    - Must be at least 16 years of age
    - Must be designated by the resident/Power of Attorney (POA)/Substitute Decision-Maker (SDM).
    - Direct care encompasses providing support/assistance to a resident that includes:
      - providing direct physical support (e.g. eating, bathing, dressing) and/or
      - providing social and emotional support.
    - Examples of direct care provided by caregivers include but are not limited to:
      - supporting activities of daily living (e.g. bathing, dressing, eating assistance)
      - providing cognitive stimulation
      - fostering successful communication
      - providing meaningful connection and emotional support
      - offering relational continuity assistance in decision-making
    - Can include: family members who provide meaningful connection, a privately hired caregiver, paid companions and translators.

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### General visitor

- A person who is not an “essential visitor” and is visiting to provide non-essential services related to either the operations of the Home, or a particular resident or group of residents.
- General visitors younger than 14 years of age must be accompanied by an adult (i.e. someone who is 18 years of age or older)
- There are 2 broad categories of general visitors:
  1. Visitors providing non-essential services such as:
    - Personal care services (e.g. hairdressers, barbers, manicurists)
    - Entertainment (e.g. singers, musicians), recreational services, or pet therapy programs
    - Individuals touring the Home regarding possible application for admission.
  2. Persons visiting for social reasons.
- Not permitted to visit: when the Home or area of the Home is in outbreak; a resident who is in isolation/symptomatic; or when the local PHU so directs. This applies to both outdoor and indoor visits.

### Please note:

- the Home’s staff, volunteers and placement students are not considered visitors
- infants under 1 year of age are not considered visitors.

### **Confirmed COVID-19 Infection:**

A positive diagnostic COVID-19 result confirmed through a laboratory-based PCR Test, or through a Molecular Point-of-Care Test that was taken following a positive Antigen Test.

### **Fully vaccinated:**

A person who has received:

- the full series of a COVID-19 vaccine authorized by Health Canada, or any combination of such vaccines, OR
- one or two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine not authorized by Health Canada, followed by one dose of a COVID-19 mRNA vaccine authorized by Health Canada, OR
- three doses of a COVID-19 vaccine not authorized by Health Canada, AND
- who received their final dose of the vaccine at least 14 days ago.

Please note: The COVID-19 vaccines currently authorized by Health Canada are: Pfizer-BioNtech, Moderna, AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD and Janssen/Johnson & Johnson.

\*\*\*Please refer to the **Appendix** for further information about visiting, allowable activities and Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) restrictions, based on the vaccination status of essential caregivers and general visitors.

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## PROCEDURE

The Home will ensure that:

- Residents, families and staff receive information about:
  - visiting and associated procedures (including scheduling, screening, testing, and IPAC practices), and
  - the need to comply with these procedures and IPAC protocols, and how non-adherence will be dealt with (including that it may result in the discontinuation of visits for the non-compliant visitor),as well as any updates, as necessary
- All visitors have access to this Policy on the Home's website (<https://ivanfrankohomes.com/>) or as hard copy, if needed, and understand the rules regarding physical distancing and masking at the outset of their visit
- All visitors are provided with education/training about physical distancing, respiratory etiquette, hand hygiene, current IPAC practices, and the proper use of masks, eye protection and other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), that incorporates guidance from Public Health Ontario (PHO) resources
- All visitors follow all IPAC practices in place at the Home
- A schedule of booked visits is maintained, and kept available and accessible for appropriate staff members
- A visitor log of all visits to the Home is maintained. The visitor log must include, at minimum, the name and contact information of the visitor, the time and date of the visit, and the purpose of the visit (e.g. name of the resident visited). These records will be kept for at least 30 days and be readily available to the local PHU for contact tracing purposes upon request
- Screening and surveillance test results are maintained for 30 days, and submitted to the Ministry of Health (MOH) as per the weekly data reporting requirement.

## DESIGNATION OF A CAREGIVER

- The decision to designate an individual as a Caregiver is entirely the resident/POA/SDM's responsibility
- A maximum of 2 Caregivers, at a time, can be designated by a resident (Caregivers designated prior to December 15, 2021, may remain as Caregivers, even if this means the resident has more than 2 Caregivers)
- All newly-designated Caregivers must be fully vaccinated to enter the Home
- The designation should be made in writing to the Home on the "Designation of an Essential Caregiver" form (IC-A-048(c))
- Caregiver designations will be documented in the progress notes by registered staff
- The resident/POA/SDM may change a designation in response to a change in the:
  - resident's care needs that are reflected in the plan of care
  - availability of a designated Caregiver, either temporary (e.g. illness) or permanent but may not:

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- continuously change a designation in order to increase the number of people able to enter the Home.
- The resident/POA/SDM should inform the Home when they want to add or remove a designation of a person as a Caregiver, and these changes will be documented in the progress notes by registered staff.

## **VISITOR ACCESS TO THE HOME**

### **Essential visitors**

#### **Caregivers:**

- Mandatory vaccination requirements:
  - Caregivers designated after December 15, 2021:
    - Must provide proof\*\* of being fully vaccinated to enter the Home.
  - Caregivers designated before December 15, 2021:
    - Must provide proof\*\* of having received at least a first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine to gain entry to the Home, and
    - Must provide proof\*\* of a second dose by February 21, 2022 to continue accessing the Home.
  - Proof of a 3<sup>rd</sup> vaccine dose:
    - Caregivers who are eligible (i.e. it is at least 3 months since their 2<sup>nd</sup> dose) will be required to show proof\*\* of their 3<sup>rd</sup> dose to come into the Home, with effective dates as follows:
      - ◆ Those who are eligible on or before December 31, 2021, must provide proof\*\* of a 3<sup>rd</sup> dose by January 28, 2022
      - ◆ Those who are eligible on or after January 1, 2022, must provide proof\*\* of their 3<sup>rd</sup> dose by May 23, 2022.
- Caregivers who have not met the vaccination requirements above are only permitted to enter the Home:
  - if they have shown proof\*\* of a valid medical contraindication/exemption, or
  - if they are visiting a resident receiving end-of-life care,and will then be restricted to the resident's room, ensuring to physically distance from the resident (unless providing direct care) and other individuals (i.e. staff or resident) in the room.
- Vaccination is not required for Caregivers for outdoor visits (when feasible)
- Up to 2 Caregivers per resident may visit at a time
- When a resident resides in an area of the Home in outbreak, is symptomatic or isolating, only 1 Caregiver may visit at a time
- A Caregiver may not visit any other resident or Home for 14 days after visiting another:
  - resident who is self-isolating (including those experiencing symptoms and being assessed)
  - Home or area of a Home affected by an outbreak
- Caregiver visits do not require scheduling, and are not restricted as to length or frequency.

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- Isolation and testing requirements for Caregivers:
  - All Caregivers who are COVID-19 positive, have COVID-19 symptoms or are a high-risk close contact with someone who is COVID-19 positive should notify the Home immediately and follow these steps:
    - Be PCR tested, and where delays in PCR testing exist, also be Rapid Antigen tested to confirm if they are COVID-19 positive
    - Isolate for 5 days (or longer if they remain symptomatic) and not return to the Home for 10 days.

### **Support Workers:**

- Any number of Support Workers may visit the Home
- Only Support Workers who have provided proof\*\* of being fully vaccinated or proof\*\* of a valid medical contraindication to receiving the COVID-19 vaccine are permitted to enter the Home, except in the following circumstances:
  - For emergency or palliative situations
  - To provide timely medical care, or
  - For the sole purpose of making a delivery.
- Support Workers who are eligible (i.e. it is at least 3 months since their 2<sup>nd</sup> COVID-19 vaccine dose) will be required to show proof\*\* of their 3<sup>rd</sup> dose to come into or work within the Home, unless they have a valid medical exemption, with effective dates as follows:
  - Those who are eligible on or before December 31, 2021, must provide proof\*\* of having received a 3<sup>rd</sup> dose by January 28, 2022
  - Those who are eligible on or after January 1, 2022, must provide proof\*\* of their 3<sup>rd</sup> dose by March 14, 2022.
- The requirements related to a 3<sup>rd</sup> vaccine dose do not apply to Support Workers under the age of 18.
- The Home may, at its discretion, schedule and manage visits by essential visitors who are not Caregivers, to balance the safety of residents, staff and visitors with the needs of the Home and its residents, taking into account physical/infrastructure characteristics of the Home, staffing availability and the Home's status with respect to PPE.

### **General Visitors**

- No general visitors are permitted effective December 30, 2021, unless visiting a resident receiving end-of-life care.

### **\*\* Please note:**

- **Valid proof of vaccination, as of January 4, 2022:**
  - For people vaccinated in Ontario:
    - The Ontario government's Enhanced Vaccine Certificate with unique QR code (digital or printed paper version), and
    - valid personal ID (e.g. Driver's Licence, Health Card, passport).
  - For people vaccinated outside of Ontario:
    - The Ontario government's Enhanced Vaccine Certificate with unique QR code (digital or printed paper version) obtained after registering vaccination information with the local PHU, and

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- valid personal ID (e.g. Driver's Licence, Health Card, passport).
- **Proof of a valid medical exemption, as of January 10, 2022:**
  - The Ontario government's Enhanced Vaccine Certificate with unique QR code (digital or printed paper version) obtained after either an Ontario physician or nurse practitioner has submitted the exemption information directly to their local PHU for acceptance, and
  - valid personal ID (e.g. Driver's Licence, Health Card, passport)
- The Home will ensure the proof being provided is valid.

### **VISITOR SCREENING PROTOCOLS**

All visitors should consider their personal health and susceptibility to the virus in determining whether visiting the Home is appropriate.

#### **All visitors:**

- Should self-screen for COVID-19 signs and symptoms at home and not visit if they have any symptoms
- Will be actively screened by staff for symptoms and exposure history for COVID-19, using the "Visitor Active Screening Questionnaire" (IC-A-048(a)) at the beginning of their visit. The Questionnaire may be administered on the phone.
- Will have temperatures checked prior to each visit
- Will not be allowed to enter the Home or visit outdoors (when feasible) if they do not pass the screening and testing requirements, as-outlined in the next Section.

In **emergency situations**, emergency services or other first responders will be permitted entry without screening.

**Any visitor who fails active screening** will be advised to go home immediately to self-isolate and call their health care provider or Telehealth Ontario to get advice, including if they need a COVID-19 test, with the following **exceptions**:

- Fully vaccinated staff and essential visitors as per the current "Guidance for Employers Managing Workers with Symptoms within 48 Hours of COVID-19 or Influenza Immunization" issued by the MOH, and
- Visitors for residents receiving end-of-life care. The Home will ensure that they wear a medical mask, appropriate PPE, maintain physical distance of a minimum of 2 metres (6 feet) from other residents and staff, and are restricted to the resident's room.  
**\*\*Please note:** this exception does not apply to visitors who failed screening due to federal quarantine requirements.

#### **Caregivers:**

- Prior to entering the Home, the Caregiver must also verbally attest that in the last 14 days, they have not visited another resident who is self-isolating (including those who are symptomatic and being assessed), or another Home or area of a Home affected by an outbreak.

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## **VISITOR SCREENING TEST REQUIREMENTS**

### **Definitions:**

**PCR Test:** a validated real-time polymerase chain reaction (PCR) assay laboratory test for COVID-19.

**Rapid Antigen (RA) Test:** a point-of-care rapid antigen test for COVID-19.

### **Testing Requirements for Visitors (indoors or outdoors)**

#### **Caregivers**

- Regardless of vaccination status, must demonstrate proof of a negative COVID-19 test result from an Antigen Test taken on the day of the visit before they are granted full entry
- If they do not have proof of a negative result, they must undergo an Antigen Test in the Home and receive negative test results before they are allowed to proceed to the resident.
- Caregivers who are only partly vaccinated must also have one PCR Test within a 7-day period, with the time period between PCR testing as close to 7 days as can practically be achieved, and demonstrate a negative result before they are granted entry.

#### **Support Workers (including Regulated Health Professionals)**

- Regardless of vaccination status, must demonstrate proof of a negative COVID-19 test result from an Antigen Test taken on the day of the visit, before they are granted full entry
- If they do not have proof of a negative result, they must undergo an Antigen Test in the Home and receive negative test results before they are allowed to enter, but will only require testing on the first entry to the Home on that day.

**General Visitors (ages 1 and up) (indoor and outdoor visits)**—not permitted to visit, effective December 30, 2021, unless visiting a resident receiving end-of-life care

- Regardless of vaccination status, must demonstrate proof of a negative result from an Antigen Test taken on the day of the visit before they are granted full entry
- If they do not have proof of a negative result, they must undergo an Antigen Test in the Home and receive negative test results before they are allowed to proceed to the resident.

#### **Exceptions:**

- The Home does not need to ask for proof of a negative COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Test result from:
  - a person who shows proof of a prior confirmed COVID-19 infection in the past 30 days (from the date of the confirmed COVID-19 infection) unless they have travelled outside of Canada in the previous 14 days, in which case they must receive and demonstrate a negative Antigen Test result before entering the Home
  - a Support Worker, Caregiver or General Visitor in an emergency or end-of-life situation, but the Home may, at its discretion, request testing in these situations.
- The testing requirements do not apply to inspectors with a statutory right of entry.

#### **Out of Country Travel**

All Caregivers, Support Workers and General Visitors who have travelled outside of Canada in the previous 14 days, must demonstrate each time they visit the Home that they have received a negative Antigen Test result on the day of the visit, regardless of their vaccination status, before they are granted full entry.



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### **Repeat False Positive Antigen Tests**

Where a Caregiver, Support Worker or General Visitor:

- take an Antigen Test and the test result is positive for COVID-19, AND
- they subsequently receive a negative confirmatory lab-based PCR Test result (i.e. a “false positive” Antigen Test), AND
- this sequence occurs 3 times within a 30-day period (starting from the day the first preliminary positive Antigen Test was taken),

they are exempt from the Antigen Test screening requirement, but must provide proof of a negative PCR Test result taken within the last 7 days, before they are granted entry to the Home.

### **Record-keeping**

The Home will maintain a log that proof of a negative antigen test and/or PCR test (as applicable) has been demonstrated by all Caregivers, Support Workers and General Visitors allowed into the Home.

### **RAPID ANTIGEN TESTING**

- Rapid Antigen testing of Caregivers, Support Workers and General Visitors will be conducted by a trained Tester in the Home’s designated testing area before they have any contact with residents
- Caregivers, Support Workers and General Visitors:
  - must consent to the Antigen Test before it can be administered (parental consent is required for all individuals under 18 years of age)
  - will be advised of the result
    - If the result is negative, will be reminded to continue practicing strict IPAC measures as a “false negative” is possible
    - If the result is positive, will be advised to return home and immediately self-isolate, and contact their health care provider or Telehealth Ontario to get medical advice or an assessment
- The Home will collect statistical information on testing, including:
  - the number of Caregivers, Support Workers and General Visitors tested with an Antigen Test
  - the number of Caregivers tested with a PCR Test and the date it was presented at the Home
  - the number of Caregivers, Support Workers and General Visitors who were permitted entry in an emergency or end-of-life situation
  - the number of Caregivers, Support Workers and General Visitors who provided proof of a negative Antigen Test to gain entry
  - the number of Caregivers, Support Workers and General Visitors who provided proof of a negative PCR Test due to “repeat false positives” to gain entry.

This information will be disclosed to the MLTC, the local PHU and to Ontario Health, upon request. All personal and health information will be collected, used and disclosed in accordance with relevant legislation, including the Personal Health Information Protection Act (PHIPA).

- Rapid Antigen Testing may be suspended during an outbreak and PCR tests may be required, subject to direction from the local PHU.

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**VISITORS WHO PASS SCREENING AND TESTING REQUIREMENTS will be:**

- given instructions on Hand Hygiene to be done before and after the visit
- given instructions on maintaining a physical distance of over 2 metres from others, including the resident, at all times (i.e. during both indoor and outdoor visits), other than for the exceptions outlined in the next Section
- given a medical mask, eye protection (i.e. face shield or goggles) and any other PPE required, and information on the safe use of all PPE, including being shown how to properly put it on/take it off, if needed
- given instructions about any other applicable IPAC procedures and visitor guidelines in place in the Home at the time of the visit
- asked to self-monitor while in the Home and report any symptoms immediately.

**REQUIRED IPAC PRACTICES FOR VISITORS**

- **PHYSICAL DISTANCING:**
  - Physical distancing of a minimum of 2 metres (6 feet) must be practiced at all times by everyone at the Home
  - **Exceptions:**
    - The provision of direct care to the resident
    - Brief physical contact (e.g. brief hugs) with the resident regardless of visitor's vaccination status
    - Physical contact (e.g. holding hands) between a fully vaccinated resident and a fully vaccinated caregiver, provided appropriate IPAC measures like masking and Hand Hygiene are practiced
    - A compassionate or end-of-life visit
    - The provision of personal care services (e.g. haircutting).
- **UNIVERSAL MASKING:**
  - A medical mask must be worn by essential visitors for the entire duration of an indoor (including the resident's room) or outdoor visit, regardless of whether the Home is in outbreak or not, and regardless of the visitor's vaccination status
  - General Visitors (when permitted) must wear:
    - a medical mask for the entire duration of indoor visits (including the resident's room)
    - a medical or non-medical mask for the entire duration of an outdoor visit
  - The medical or non-medical mask must cover the mouth, nose and chin for the duration of the visit.
  - **Exceptions:**
    - Children who are younger than 2 years of age
    - Any visitor who is being accommodated in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, and/or the Ontario Human Rights Code.
  - Residents will be encouraged to wear a mask when receiving visitors, if tolerated.
- **EYE PROTECTION**
  - All essential visitors (incl. Caregivers), regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear appropriate eye protection (e.g. goggles or face shield) when providing care to residents who

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are self-isolating due to suspected or confirmed COVID-19, or when providing direct care within 2 metres of residents in an outbreak area

- In all other circumstances, use of eye protection is based on the Point-of-Care Risk Assessment when within 2 metres of a resident or residents.

### **PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)**

#### **Essential Visitors:**

- Essential visitors who are in contact with a resident who is suspected, probable or confirmed with COVID-19 must wear appropriate PPE.
- The Home will provide medical masks, N95 respirators (or approved equivalent), gloves, gowns and eye protection, as required.

#### **General Visitors visiting a resident receiving end-of-life care:**

- The Home will provide medical masks, N95 respirators (or approved equivalent), gloves, gowns and eye protection, as required.

If, due to supply shortages, the Home is not able to provide medical masks, no visitors will be permitted inside the Home. Essential visitors who have appropriate PPE provided by their employer, may enter the Home.

### **IPAC EDUCATION/TRAINING FOR VISITORS**

The Home will:

- Provide education/training that addresses:
  - Physical distancing
  - Respiratory etiquette
  - Hand Hygiene
  - IPAC practices, and
  - Proper use of PPE
- Use PHO resources and guidance documents to support this IPAC education and training, including:
  - a Guidance document titled “Recommended Steps: Putting on PPE”
  - videos titled: “Putting on Full PPE”, “Taking off Full PPE”, “How to Hand Wash” and “How to Hand Rub”.

### **SUPERVISING VISITS**

- To manage health and safety during visits (e.g. monitoring the flow of visitors to ensure sufficient physical distancing can be maintained, supporting residents during the visit, etc.) the Home may supervise visits
- This will be done in a manner that respects the resident’s right to communicate in confidence, receive visitors of their choice and consult in private with any person without interference.

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### **OTHER INFORMATION**

- Caregivers may only visit and provide care for the resident who has designated them as a Caregiver
- If the resident has a shared room, the Caregiver and/or General Visitor should always be mindful of the other resident in the room and ensure he/she is not disturbed
- Caregivers are encouraged to spend time outside the resident's room, including outdoors and walks inside the Home (subject to any limitations at the time of the visit), however, partly vaccinated Caregivers and Caregivers who have provided proof of a medical exemption must visit with the resident only in the resident's room and must ensure to physically distance from the resident (unless providing direct care) and other individuals in the room
- Bringing in any outside food for the resident is not allowed
- Caregivers and General Visitors should eat and use washroom facilities before their visit, however:
  - if needed, a designated washroom will be available for use
  - if the Caregiver must eat for medical reasons, he/she must inform staff in advance and follow their instructions, and eat only in the area designated by staff and not near residents.

### **NON-ADHERENCE BY VISITORS**

- Recognizing the importance of visits on the resident's physical and emotional well-being, together with the need to protect the Home's residents, staff and visitors from the risk of COVID-19, the Home will make every reasonable effort to support visitors in understanding and adhering to visiting requirements and IPAC protocols by providing:
  - Clear information about procedures and necessary IPAC practices
  - Information about other applicable requirements, as needed
  - Appropriate PPE and training on its proper use
  - Any additional education and training that may be required
  - Easy access to hand sanitizer
  - Visiting spaces that allow sufficient room for physical distancing
  - The opportunity for visitors to clarify any questions they may have.
- If staff observe a visitor not adhering to visiting requirements and IPAC protocols (e.g. not wearing a mask, not properly distancing, etc.), they should report this to the nurse-in-charge/designate, who will:
  - Meet with the visitor to discuss and provide any needed additional information, clarification or training
  - Ensure that any required resources are available to the visitor and allow him/her sufficient time to adhere to the requirements.

#### **Ending a visit:**

- If, after explaining the applicable requirement(s) to the visitor and providing sufficient time to adhere to the requirement(s), there is concern due to the visitor's repeated non-adherence, the Home's Administration may decide to end a visit
- This decision will be documented in the progress notes.

#### **Temporarily Prohibiting a Visitor:**

- If there is repeated and flagrant non-adherence (i.e. demonstrated continuously by the visitor over multiple visits) and all reasonable efforts to maintain resident, staff and visitor safety

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(including ending a visit) have not been successful, the Home's Administration may consider and decide to temporarily prohibit a visitor from visiting the resident.

- This decision will:
  - stipulate a reasonable length of the prohibition
  - clearly identify which requirements the visitor should meet before visits may be resumed (e.g. reviewing the Home's Visiting Policy, reviewing specific Public Health Ontario resources, etc.)
  - be documented by the Home.
- When visits have been discontinued for a non-compliant visitor, the Home will provide the reason for the discontinuation in writing.
- If the temporarily prohibited visitor is a Caregiver, the resident/POA/SDM may need to designate an alternate individual as Caregiver to help meet the resident's care needs.

#### **MANDATORY PROHIBITION OF ENTRANCE TO THE HOME**

- Under the Long-Term Care Minister's Directive, the Home will ensure that no staff, caregivers, placement students, volunteers, Support Workers or General Visitors enter the Home unless the requirements contained in the Directive have been met.

#### **VIRTUAL AND WINDOW VISITS**

- Scheduled virtual visits on Facetime/Skype will continue.
- Scheduled window visits will continue.

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## **APPENDIX—VISITING AND ACTIVITY INFORMATION BASED ON TYPE OF VISITOR**

**Please note:** In the event of an outbreak or very high community spread of COVID-19, some activities during visits may need to be limited, and group activities and communal dining may be modified or suspended to reduce the risk of transmission.

### **ESSENTIAL CAREGIVERS:**

1. If **fully vaccinated** and have passed all screening and testing requirements, and if **visiting a fully vaccinated resident:**

**CAN:**

- Visit indoors/outdoors
- Physically touch the resident (e.g. hold hands and hug)
- Accompany a resident to meals and indoor/outdoor activities

as long as physical distancing of at least 2 metres is maintained from others, and all other required IPAC practices are followed (e.g. universal masking, Hand Hygiene).

2. If only **partly vaccinated**, and passed all screening and testing requirements (PCR Lab Test and Rapid Testing), and if **visiting a fully vaccinated resident:**

**CAN:**

- Visit only in the resident's room
- Only briefly hug the resident

as long as physical distancing of at least 2 metres is maintained from the resident when not providing direct care and from others, and all other required IPAC practices are followed (e.g. universal masking, Hand Hygiene).

**CANNOT:**

- Hold the resident's hand or give a prolonged hug
- Join in communal dining or activities.

3. If only **partly vaccinated**, and passed all screening requirements but **refused testing:**

**CANNOT:**

- Enter the Home
- Have an outdoor visit.

4. If have **provided proof of a valid medical exemption (i.e. unvaccinated)**, and have passed all screening and testing requirements, and if **visiting a fully vaccinated resident:**

**CAN:**

- Visit only in the resident's room
- Only briefly hug the resident

as long as physical distancing of at least 2 metres is maintained from the resident (when not providing direct care) and from others, and all other required IPAC practices are followed (e.g. universal masking, Hand Hygiene).

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**CANNOT:**

- Hold the resident's hand or give a prolonged hug
- Join in communal dining or activities.

**Visiting an unvaccinated or partly vaccinated resident:**

An Essential Caregiver (regardless of their vaccination status) who has passed all screening and testing requirements, and is visiting an **unvaccinated or partly vaccinated resident:**

**CAN:**

- Visit only in the resident's room as long as physical distancing of at least 2 metres is maintained from the resident (at all times) and from others, and all other required IPAC practices are followed (e.g. universal masking, Hand Hygiene).

**CANNOT:**

- Have any close physical contact with the resident (i.e. no brief hugs or hand-holding)
- Accompany the resident to meals or indoor/outdoor activities.

\*\* The visit should be scheduled 48 hours in advance unless there is an extraordinary or special circumstance.