

Memo

Date: July 15, 2021

To: Valleyview Staff, Essential Caregivers, Visitors
From: Elizabeth Bryce, Administrator

Cc: Leadership Team

RE: **Phase 3 of Roadmap to Reopening: New Update Effective July 16, 2021**

Priority: High

As you are all aware, we will be moving to Phase 3 of Reopening in Ontario. Long Term Care Homes will also progress into specific changes in policy and processes with the present improvements that are evident due to the uptake of vaccination rates and decrease of outbreaks within the sector.

Changes Effective Friday July 16/21

Surveillance Testing

Asymptomatic and Fully Immunized Staff, Essential Caregivers, Visitors, Support Workers, Students & Volunteers do not require surveillance antigen and/or PCR testing.

Essential Caregivers, Visitors and Support Workers that can provide proof at entrance during active screening of full immunization status does not need to undergo surveillance testing.

PLEASE NOTE:

A person is **fully immunized** against COVID 19 if:

- They have received the full series of a COVID 19 vaccine or combination of COVID 19 vaccines approved by Health Canada (both doses of a two dose vaccine series, or one dose of a single-dose vaccine series) AND
- They received their final dose of the COVID-19 vaccines at least 14 days ago

Partial/Unimmunized Staff, Essential Caregivers, Visitors, Support Workers, Students & Volunteers require asymptomatic surveillance antigen testing “day of” and must wait for result prior to entering the resident home areas/room.

For Children Visitors

Children under 2 years old are not considered a visitor, **not required for asymptomatic antigen testing** entering the Home

Children 2-18 years old must antigen test “day of” visit with parental consent. If no consent given/or testing refused, the individual is not permitted to enter the Home.

If Children eligible for vaccinations and fully immunized and provide proof, they are exempted from asymptomatic surveillance testing.

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How to Find Your COVID 19 Vaccination Receipt

If you do not have a copy of your COVID 19 Vaccination Receipt.

Go to <https://covid19.ontariohealth.ca/>

You will need your health care number to retrieve.

Absences

Social Absence (Less than 24 hours) are permitted for all residents regardless of immunization status Approval is not required.

- The wearing of surgical mask (if tolerated) is required for resident. Routine Public Health measures such as physical distancing, frequent hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette must be complied.
- The Screener will provide surgical masks before leaving the Home.
- PCR testing or self isolation upon return not required, unless symptomatic.

Temporary Overnight Absences (2 and greater days) are permitted, but approval from home is required.

- Require PCR testing and isolation (if applicable) regardless of immunization status upon return.

Medical, Compassionate/Palliative and Essential Absences are permitted regardless of vaccination status and also during outbreak/isolation with Public Health direction for non-medical/emergency reasons.

Visitors Limit

Due to consideration of capacity of common areas and resident rooms:

All residents may have up to **2 Visitors and 2 Essential Caregivers** at a time for an **INDOOR VISIT**

Due to capacity of the Courtyard – for an **OUTDOOR VISIT 4 visitors per resident at one time.**

Outbreak Requirements for Essential Caregivers & Visitors

Only One (1) Essential Caregiver per visit **is permitted** during an outbreak and/or isolation.

Non-Essential Visitors are not permitted unless resident in area unaffected by outbreak and as per Public Health direction.

Social Absences & Temporary Absences are not permitted when in outbreak and/or resident isolation

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Personal Protective Equipment Requirements

Surgical Masks provided by Home is required at all times and ensuring worn properly (over mouth and nose).

Eye protection of Partial and Unimmunized **Staff, Essential Caregivers, Visitors, Support Workers, Students & Volunteers** must be worn indoors during care and non-care.

Outdoor Visit do not require eye protection

Eye protection Fully immunized **Staff, Essential Caregivers, Visitors, Support Workers, Students & Volunteers** are not required to wear eye protection but can remain for precaution of risk.

Eye protection for both Immunized and Partial/Non Immunized must wear eye protection when providing direct care during resident in isolation and in outbreak

Physical Contact of Visitor/Resident

ESSENTIAL CAREGIVER

Fully Immunized- May have physical contact, including non-care related reasons with a fully immunized resident.

Caregivers for non-care with an unimmunized resident must physical distance (2m), but a brief hug is permitted.

Partial/Unimmunized – Physical distancing is required if not providing direct care, brief hug is permitted.

NON-ESSENTIAL GENERAL VISITOR

Fully Immunized – Close contact with fully immunized resident is allowed.

Visit with an unimmunized resident must physical distance (2m), but a brief hug is permitted.

Partial/Unimmunized – Physical distancing is required during social visit, brief hug is permitted.

PLEASE NOTE: General visitors do not provide direct care ie. Assistance with Daily Living (personal hygiene or grooming, dressing, toileting, eating).

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Active Screening

Daily symptom screening of resident will be a minimum of once daily. Nursing Leadership will communicate to Registered staff the timeframe for symptom screening.

Staff, Students, Essential Caregivers/Visitors, Support Workers and Returning Residents

- Must actively screen at the entrance of Home. Temperature Checks will not be required.
- When leaving the Home, no active screening required.
- **Essential Caregivers/General Visitors & Support Worker must sign out using the Visitor Log Binder**

At Screening Entrance, Essential Caregivers and Visitors after screening will receive an identification badge that must be worn for duration of visit.

PLEASE NOTE: The screening at the Courtyard will end starting tomorrow. All General visitors entering Home that book Courtyard Outdoor visits will screen at entrance and antigen test (if applicable).

Social Gatherings for Residents

- Physical Distancing can be relaxed indoors, but the resident lounges must maintain the limited capacity of Eight(8).
- Cohorting of residents can be relaxed for outdoor programming/activities only. **When residents not cohorted it is important that masking (where tolerated) and physical distancing requirement are followed.**
- Maintain cohorting of residents at indoor resident programming/activities
- Activities that involve singing and dancing will resume indoors and/or outdoors

Dining

- Will maintain the current layout arrangement to allow physical distancing between tables.
- Frequent hand hygiene or residents is very Important and including Staff and Essential caregivers assisting with feeding.

It is through Everyone's diligence that we have got to this level of improvement. Please continue to be vigilant of infection control measures as there remains a concern of variants risk in the community. The safety of Everyone is paramount.

Stay Well & Safe,

Elizabeth