



TITLE: Visitors	POLICY NO.: 14 - 170
SECTION: Residents Safeguards and Services (Included in communication book at reception)	PAGE: 1 of 6
CREATED BY: Cathy Lessard DOC	EFFECTIVE DATE: June 2020 REVISED DATE: July 2023 REVIEWED DATE:
SUBMITTED BY: K. Oram, IPAC Manager	APPROVED BY: CEO

POLICY

Procedure for visitors entering and exiting the Home.

PURPOSE

To provide direction for various categories of Visitors.

SCOPE

All staff, Residents, Support Workers, Caregivers, General Visitors, Family members

DEFINITIONS

Resident: Person who permanently lives at the Home.

Visitor of very ill or palliative: granted by the Director of Resident Care/Delegate.

Support Worker: visiting to perform essential services for the home or for a resident at the home. -i.e., Physician, Nurse Practitioners, Footcare provider, maintenance workers or a person delivering food, provided they are not staff of the LTC home as defined in the *LTCHA*.

Caregiver: (See SJF Policy [# 8-178 Service Provider](#)) an essential visitor designated by the resident and/or substitute decision-maker providing direct care to the resident (e.g., supporting feeding, mobility, personal hygiene, cognitive stimulation, communication, meaningful connection, relational continuity and assistance in decision-making). Only a parent or legal guardian can permit persons under 16 years of age to be designated as a caregiver

Government Inspectors: have a Statutory right to enter a Long-Term Care Homes to carry out their Duties.

General Visitor: A visitor who is not of any of categories listed above.

A. Responsibility of all Visitors to the Home:

All Visitors, Caregivers, Essential Visitors, Volunteers, Support Workers and Staff must be passively screened by reviewing the posted questions for symptoms of COVID19 on entry to the home. (See Appendix A). If you answer YES to any of the questions, provincial recommendations are to postpone non-essential visits to the LTCH for

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10 days after developing symptoms, regardless of the results of their COVID-19 test results, to reduce the risk of introduction of any respiratory pathogens into highest risk settings.

This includes:

1. All Support workers must provide proof of being “Up to date on Covid Immunization”.
2. Visitors are no longer required to provide proof of Covid Immunization upon entry.
3. All Visitors must sign the log # F14-170 to indicate who they are visiting. See Appendix B.
4. Any visitor taking a resident out of the building must sign them out and sign them back in on the log # F14-170. See Appendix B.
5. Prior to visiting any resident for the first time, the home will provide training to Caregivers that addresses how to safely provide direct care, including putting on and taking off required PPE, and hand hygiene. This will be reviewed Annually or when Caregiver deficiencies are identified.
6. St. Joseph’s at Fleming is a mask friendly home. Substitute decision makers may request that staff members wear a mask when providing care in a resident room, in alignment with the Residents’ Bill of Rights. This request should be directed to the Home Area Manager or Charge Nurse so that appropriate signage and PPE can be put into place. See Appendix C.
7. Family and Visitors will adhere to the “Code of Conduct for Family and Visitors”
8. Visitors not cooperating will not be allowed entry to the home and visits may be terminated immediately.

B. Responsibility of all Staff to:

1. Monitor Visitors in the Home to ensure Visitors are adhering to the IPAC Policy.
2. Report to the Charge Nurse/IPAC Manager or Lead when a Visitor is breaching rules. i.e refusal to don PPE during outbreak or in an isolation room requiring additional precautions. See Infection Control Policy #5-93 Routine Practices and Additional Precautions.
3. Follow posted signage outside resident rooms; residents (or substitute decision-makers) may request that a staff member wear a mask when providing care, in alignment with the Residents’ Bill of Rights. See Appendix C.

C. Responsibility of Home Area Manager/Charge Nurse/IPAC Manager and Lead

1. Immediately address Caregivers/Visitors who are not adhering to IPAC Policy.
2. Review rules, educate, reinstruct and document in PCC.
3. Future Infractions may result in discontinuation of visiting and/or Caregiver status.

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4. Implement signage and isolation caddies outside resident rooms that have requested staff members wear a mask when providing care, in alignment with the Residents' Bill of Rights. See Appendix C.

REFERENCES

Ministry of Long-Term Care COVID-19 guidance document for long-term care homes in Ontario

Ministry of Health and LongTerm Care
O. Regs 246/22, Visitor Policy 267
CARF I.H.2.

Following Public Health Ontario resources to support IPAC and PPE education and training for visitors:

- Guidance document entitled Recommended Steps: Putting on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Video entitled Putting on Full Personal Protective Equipment.
- Video entitled Taking off Full Personal Protective Equipment.
- Video entitled How to Hand Wash.

Indoor Visiting during a Pandemic - St. Joseph's at Fleming Policy
Service Providers and Caregiver Status during CoVid-19 Pandemic - St. Joseph's at Fleming Policy
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/directives/LTCH_HPPA.pdf
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/2019_guidance.aspx#LTC
<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/diseases-and-conditions/infectious-diseases/respiratory-diseases/novel-coronavirus>
<https://www.ontario.ca/page/resources-prevent-covid-19-workplace>
<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/health-topics/infection-prevention-control/best-practices-ipac>
https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/vaccine/COVID_19_vaccine_up_to_date.pdf

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Appendix A

COVID-19 Screening Tool for Long-Term Care Homes – August 31, 2022



1. In the last 10 days, have you experienced any of these symptoms? Choose any/all that are new, worsening, and not related to other known causes or conditions that you already have. Select "No" if all of these apply: • Since your symptoms began, you tested negative for COVID-19 on one PCR test or rapid molecular <u>test</u> or two rapid antigen tests taken 24 to 48 hours apart; and • You do not have a fever; and • Your symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (48 hours if you have nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea).	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Do you have one or more of the following symptoms?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Fever and/or chills - Temperature of 37.8 degrees Celsius or higher		
Cough or barking cough (croup) - Not related to asthma, post-infectious reactive airways, COPD, or other known causes or conditions you already have		
Shortness of breath - Not related to asthma or other known causes or conditions you already have		
Decrease or loss of taste or smell - Not related to other known causes or conditions (e.g., allergies, neurological disorders)		
Muscle Aches/Joint Pain – unusual, long lasting (not related to a sudden injury, fibromyalgia, other conditions you already have, COVID-19 vaccine in the last 48hrs)		
Fatigue – Unusual tiredness, lack of energy, not related to other <u>known causes</u> or conditions (e.g., depression, insomnia, thyroid dysfunction, COVID-19 vaccine in the last 48hrs)		
Sore Throat – painful or difficulty swallowing (not related to post-nasal drip, acid reflux, or other known causes or conditions you have)		
Runny or stuffy/congested nose – not related to seasonal allergies, being outside in cold weather, or other known conditions you have		
Headache – New, unusual, long-lasting (not related to tension-type headaches, chronic <u>migraines</u> or other conditions you may have)		
Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea – not related to irritable bowel syndrome, anxiety, menstrual <u>cramps</u> or other known causes you already have		

2. Have you been told that you should currently be quarantining, isolating, staying at home, or not attending a high risk setting (e.g., LTCH or RH)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Could include being told by a doctor, health care provider, public health unit, federal border agent, or other government authority. Please note there are federal requirements (<https://travel.qc.ca/travel-covid>) for individuals who travelled outside of Canada, even if exempt from quarantine.

3. In the last 10 days (regardless of whether you are currently self-isolating or not), have you tested positive for Covid-19 including on a rapid antigen test or a home-based self-testing kit? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you have since tested negative on a lab-based PCR test and been cleared by Kate or Paula select No

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Appendix C

SAFETY FIRST



**MASKS
REQUIRED
BEYOND THIS POINT**