



Eastern
Health

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Eastern Health Announces Changes to Visitation

July 10, 2020 – St. John’s, NL: Eastern Health advises that effective July 13, 2020 six designated visitors/support persons will be welcomed for all in-patients in a hospital setting and residents of long-term care, personal care homes, assisted living facilities and community care homes. Visitation hours will be determined by facility and designated visitors/support persons are advised to contact the patient’s/resident’s care givers for further information.

While visiting the patient/resident, all designated visitors/support persons will be required to wear the mask provided for the duration of their visit. The designated visitors/support persons should not visit any other resident or staff and are asked to go directly to the patient/resident room or visitation space.

All designated visitors/support persons will be provided information on:

- screening process upon entry into the facility/home;
- signs and symptoms of COVID-19;
- proper hand hygiene;
- putting on and taking off appropriate personal protective equipment;
- physical distancing; and,
- limiting their social interactions outside the home (people in their “bubble”) to minimize their personal risk.

In the hospital setting, each patient will be asked to identify up to six visitors upon admission to acute care and will be advised by their nurse about the visitation process on the unit.

Obstetrics patients may have one support person who can stay for the duration of the mother and newborn’s stay and can visit as many times as they like throughout the day. Additionally, four designated visitors are permitted after delivery to the time of discharge.

Children who are in-patients can have both parents visit at the same time and there are no restrictions on the number of visits per day. Additionally, four individuals can be identified as designated visitors and they must contact the hospital unit before visiting to confirm the visiting time and to ensure they are aware of requirements for visitation at the facility.

Residents of long-term care, personal care homes, assisted living facilities and community care homes can have up to six designated visitors including a support person, and these individuals should remain the same while visitor restrictions remain in place. A maximum of two people can visit per day, and these two visitors can attend at the same time.

Designated visitors/support persons for acute care, palliative care, long-term care, personal care home, assisted living facilities and community care homes should consult with the patient’s/resident’s care team at the various facilities for visitation guidelines as these may vary by facility and circumstances.

Patients with questions or concerns regarding a change in their health are advised to contact their health-care provider, call the Healthline at 811, or proceed to the nearest emergency room if emergency services are required. For more information on COVID-19, please visit the provincial Department of Health and Community Services website at: www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/.

For updates pertaining to Eastern Health's ongoing services due to COVID-19, please visit Eastern Health's website at www.easternhealth.ca/covid19 or follow us on Facebook and Twitter. General contact information is available at: www.easternhealth.ca/contactus.

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