

# COVID-19 VISITOR GUIDELINE UPDATE

August 23, 2021

Please see the following updates to the KDH Visitor Policy.

Provincial Lockdown		
Essential Caregivers Permitted Indoor Visits – General Visitors Outdoor Visits		
Department	Number of Visitors	Special Precautions
Emergency Department	Limited visitors are permitted at this time	Approved visitors include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- parents of children (under 18),</li><li>- essential caregivers for individuals with deficits (i.e., those who require assistance due to hearing, speech, mobility, or cognitive impairments),</li><li>- patients who require 1:1 supervision that can be conducted by a caregiver or family member,</li><li>- special circumstances (based on approval from MD and staff)</li></ul>
Medical/Surgical Department	1 visitor at a time with pre-booked appointment for indoor visits; up to 4 visitors (2 general and 2 essential caregivers) for outdoor visits.	<b>For Indoor Visits:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Maximum of 2 essential caregivers that are pre-screened and approved per unit</li><li>- Must have pre-booked visit</li><li>- Must pass active screening for COVID-19</li><li>- Must show proof of negative COVID-19 test <b>weekly</b></li><li>- <b>COVID-19 test not required for those who have had 2 COVID-19 vaccinations and completed the 14-day waiting period (proof of vaccination required)</b></li></ul> <b>For Outdoor Visits:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Maximum of 2 general visitors at a time (in addition to the essential caregivers)</li><li>- Preferably set a time with inpatient unit to coordinate care</li><li>- Must pass active screening for COVID-19</li><li>- Must wear a mask and abide by public health recommendations</li></ul>
Interim Long-Term Care / Convalescent Care Unit	1 visitor at a time with pre-booked appointment for indoor visits; up to 4 visitors (2 general and 2 essential caregivers) for outdoor visits.	<b>For Indoor Visits:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Maximum of 2 essential caregivers that are pre-screened and approved per unit</li><li>- Must have pre-booked visit</li><li>- Must pass active screening for COVID-19</li><li>- Must undergo Rapid Antigen Test prior to <b>each</b> visit</li></ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rapid Antigen Test not required for those who have had 2 COVID-19 vaccinations and have completed the 14-day waiting period (proof of vaccination required)</li> </ul> <p><b>For Outdoor Visits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maximum of 2 general visitors at a time (in addition to the essential caregivers)</li> <li>- Preferably set a time with inpatient unit to coordinate care</li> <li>- Must pass active screening for COVID-19</li> <li>- Must wear a mask and abide by public health recommendations</li> </ul>
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## APPENDIX A: PALLIATIVE/COMPASSIONATE VISITORS

All visitors should obtain a negative COVID-19 test prior to visiting. In scenarios where this is not feasible it can be waived for the initial visit (i.e., rapid decline in patient status) but the family member should obtain the swab ASAP.

All visitors who are coming in for palliative/compassionate reasons should “book” timeslots with the ward clerk/nurse. The number of visitors for palliative/compassionate reasons will be above the existing 8 time slots for essential caregivers. The names of these visitors will be listed in the same book and process used for essential visitors.

Please use the below table for guidance:

Sample Booking for Palliative/Compassionate Reasons:		
Visit Time	Essential Caregivers	Palliative/Compassionate
1100-1200		
1200-1300		
1300-1400		
1400-1500		
1500-1600		
1600-1700		
1700-1800		
1800-1900		
1900-2000		

Visits for palliative/compassionate reasons can be made outside of “visiting hours” but this will be based on PPS (less than 20%) and patient condition, but will be recorded in the visiting log by the nurse or ward clerk.

To eliminate many visitors waiting around KDH when the PPS is below 20%, it is recommended that the family decide on a schedule allowing 2 visitors at a time for 1 hour slots. This can then be recorded in the visiting log. These timelines can be adjusted depending on the family situation and patient (i.e., 2 visitors for 2 hour blocks etc.) but will decrease the amount of turnover.