

Family Information Update – March 18, 2021

Visits in the Veterans Centre

Weekly visits have resumed in the Veterans Centre in the Annex. It is wonderful to have you back and we can see that your visits are so well received. Thank you for sharing your feedback about your visit, it is appreciated.

A note from one of our family members....

“Thanks for all that you do to keep our family members safe, entertained and well cared for.”

Vaccines for Essential Care Partners (ECP's) – exciting news in the Veterans Centre

Essential Care Partners (ECP's) who are currently scheduled visitors will have the opportunity to be vaccinated at the [Sunnybrook COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic](#) from March 23 – 26th.

Only ECP's that are currently and on our visit lists are eligible at this time, no new ECP's will be added to the list.

We will contact you over the next few days and into early next week by telephone or in person to collect the detailed information that we require to arrange your vaccine appointment.

You will receive confirmation of your appointment by email or text; you will need to check for regular updates. If you do not have email or text we will contact you.

All details and requirements for your vaccine along with a map will be attached in your vaccine confirmation email which you will receive separately.

Two weeks after your first dose, you may begin participating in close-contact visits (i.e. hand holding and hugging) your family member.

Some of you may have received your vaccine already, as of March 29, 2021 we will have a new protocols in place so that you may resume close contact visits.

If you are a visitor who chooses not to receive the vaccination, you will continue to attest to a negative weekly PCR COVID-19 test within 7 days of your visit. You may enjoy a socially-distanced visit; a close-contact visit is not an option.

Please be aware that no test is 100% accurate all the time. Therefore, we recommend you to continue actively self-screening for symptoms prior to visiting your loved one to ensure their health and safety can be maintained. We will continue to follow all safety precautions: wearing a mask, hand hygiene and physical distancing.

Just a reminder once again, we will contact you as an ECP if you meet the criteria for the vaccine; we are not able to accept any other requests for vaccinations.

Frequently-asked questions:

What if I have had COVID-19: may I visit?

If you have tested positively for COVID-19 and recovered, you may visit, and will be screened for symptoms as per the usual process. We require documentation of the date of your positive COVID-19 test for our records.

Request for window and outdoor visiting

We are unable to accommodate window visits or outdoor visiting at this time. We continue to be guided by the provincial directives. Due to the third wave of this pandemic, residents must remain on site and in the facility. We happily support virtual visits with grandchildren and great grandchildren when we can, however they are unable to visit on site.

What if I have received my vaccine: may I stop my COVID-19 testing?

We are in the process of reviewing testing after COVID-19 vaccination. Please continue with your testing until we notify you of a change to this process.

****All visitors will need to provide proof of vaccination, provided by the Ministry of Health upon each visit once the new protocols are in place, starting March 29, 2021 , those unvaccinated will continue to attest to COVID-19 testing within 7 days of your visit****

Skin Health in the Veterans Centre

On March 22 and 23, 2021 we are conducting a study of skin health for all residents in the Veterans Program. The study will identify risks that may contribute to skin breakdown, skin infections or health care issues. Qualified health care providers will visit the resident care units to conduct these assessments.