



## **ATTENTION: MATERNITY PATIENTS**

During the COVID-19 pandemic there are increased precautions in place on the Maternal Child Unit at QHC

We are asking that all pregnant patients call the Maternal Child Unit at 613-969-7400 extension 2345 prior to coming to Quinte 7 **\*for any reason\***. This includes reasons like when you feel you may be in labour or you have a concern about your pregnancy. This will allow the health care team to pre-screen you, direct you to the best place for care and allow the team to be prepared to ensure the safety of everyone involved.

PLEASE NOTE: Quinte Health Care has updated the Care Partners and Visiting During COVID-19 Policy. This policy is a staged approach to balance the needs of our patients and the importance of limiting the number of people coming into the hospital to keep our patients, staff, physicians and communities safe. **Please go to the QHC website for more information on our current stage of visiting and who can accompany you to the hospital: [www.qhc.on.ca/visiting-hours-p12.php](http://www.qhc.on.ca/visiting-hours-p12.php) .**

A couple of important things to know before you come include:

- Your care partner(s) must screen negative for COVID-19 at the hospital entrance.
- All essential care partners and visitors **MUST** provide proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 and personal identification when entering the hospital.
- **If your essential care partner is NOT fully vaccinated:**
  - o Proof of a negative COVID-19 test using either a rapid antigen test administered upon entry or proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test (the kind done at local COVID-19 testing centres) performed in the last 72 hours is required.
  - o Only the essential care partner will be permitted, a visitor or second support person will not be permitted regardless of the current stage of visiting.
  - o Visitors or care partners who undergo a rapid antigen test on arrival must wait in the designated waiting area until the testing period is complete (15 minutes).
  - o Any visitor or care partner who receives a positive result using the rapid antigen test will be denied entry and encouraged to follow-up with a local testing centre to have a PCR test completed right away.
  - o Care partners must bring their health card with them to the hospital.
- Care partners are required to wear a mask **at all times** while in the hospital. If they are unable to wear a mask you must identify a different care partner who can meet the requirements.

Please note that no care partners are permitted for booked appointments to the OAC (NSTs and immunizations). If you are coming for other obstetrical assessments or cervical ripening, 1 care partner is permitted in our triage area. If you have a booked appointment on the Maternal Child Unit you can expect a screening phone call. **If you have not had a call prior to leaving for the appointment, please call us at 613-969-7400 extension 2345.** This phone number is not a general information line; it should only be used for patients requiring urgent assessment for a current problem.

Food and beverage outlets are closed to visitors in the hospital at this time. Visitors are asked to not eat or drink while in the hospital. Care partners are allowed to go in and out of the hospital for this purpose but are encouraged to limit the number of times moving in and out of the building.

If you plan to breastfeed or feed expressed breastmilk, please bring a breast pump with you if you have one.

Specific situations involving patients with COVID-19 will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Please talk with your health care provider if you have any concerns about meeting these requirements.

If your primary concern is related to a possible COVID-19 infection, and not related to your pregnancy, follow the community guidelines in place. Please call the Hastings and Prince Edward Public Health Unit or access their website for more information specific to COVID-19.

Thank you for your co-operation during this very difficult time.

*The Maternal Child Team*