

COVID-19 Visiting Statement

During a pandemic such as COVID-19, restrictions may be placed on existing visitation policies. It is important that these restrictions be proportionate to the current environment (change with the current state of the pandemic) so as to avoid unnecessary harm. The decision to place or remove restrictions must balance public protection, staff safety, patient and family well-being, stewardship of resources and fairness.

All visitors will be screened at the hospital door and must pass the screening questions in order to be allowed entry.

Each visitor must bring their own mask and comply with any requirements for additional PPE identified by the hospital. If the individual does not have a mask they can be provided with an unrated mask and are to be reminded of the need to bring a mask next time.

While visiting, all visitors must make every reasonable effort to maintain social distancing space (2 metres) and complete hand hygiene frequently.

While in the hospital, visitors are to remain with the patient and refrain from moving about within the hospital.

Visitors are not permitted to sleep at the hospital.

Out-patients

Outpatients (Surgery, Endoscopy, Surgical Clinics, Diagnostic Imaging, Fracture Clinic, etc.)

- One support person may accompany the patient to their destination
- Within Diagnostic Imaging, if decision making or emotional support is essential (some examples are severe anxiety and prenatal ultrasound), the support person may remain with the patient for the duration of the diagnostic test
- Support person may not remain in the waiting area due to space constraints
- Consult with the department manager/director when clarification is required

Emergency Department

- One support person will be permitted for those patients with a high acuity/critical illness, for compassionate circumstances or when accompanying a dependent
- Care team will determine the number of visitors that can be accommodated in the existing space for patients at end of life
- Consult with the department manager/director when clarification is required

Oncology

- One support person will be permitted during a visit

In-patients (not end of life)

In-patients

- One family member/loved one will be permitted per day, between 8 am to 8 pm. The visitor for the day can have in-and-out privileges, but needs to be the same person for the day. Visitor can change daily.
- The interprofessional care team may determine if the acuity of the patient warrants more than one visitor at a time
- QHC encourages the use of social platforms using personal devices or the “Compassion Care” initiative through Patient Experience for larger connections with family and friends

Maternity

- Arm band will be provided at the time of baby’s birth for one parent/designated support person to visit between 8am-8pm (with in-and-out privileges). No additional visitors.

Paediatrics

- Parents/caregiver at any given time

In-patients (end of life)

- Up to two visitors at a time will be permitted
- The interprofessional care team may determine if an exception is warranted
- Encourage the use of social platforms or “Compassion Care” initiative through Patient Experience for larger gatherings