

NEW GUIDELINES FOR VISITS TO MANITOBA'S HOSPITALS AND HEALTH CENTRES

Facility operators have been provided with guidelines to support decisions on case-by-case exceptions. Care teams and facility operators will work together with patients and family members to consider individual circumstances. Restrictions remain in place for visitors who have travelled, have any symptoms or who have been exposed to COVID-19, and all visitors will be screened prior to entry.

The new guidelines are as follows:

- for most inpatients, one designated support person can be identified to visit;
- for most inpatients, one visitor at a time will be permitted an exceptions will be made to allow a second visitor under the age of 14 accompanied by an adult;
- if a patient's length of stay reaches 14 days and discharge is unlikely to occur in the next 72 hours, two designated support people can be identified to visit and will be allowed to visit (one at a time) for the remainder of the patient's stay in hospital;
- two designated support people are also permitted for the following patient populations:
 - labour and delivery (both support people may be present during labour and delivery, and one may stay overnight with approval);
 - pediatrics (both support peoplemay visit every day, one parent may stay overnight); and
 - end-of-life care (during the last two weeks of care a maximum of four support people may be identified to visit).
- CancerCare patients who require assistance to access ongoing treatment may be permitted a support person on a case-by-case basis;
- facilities may need to limit the number of visitors in a unit or in the facility at any one time and limits are at the discretion of the facility operator and will be clearly communicated to visitors;
- visits to COVID-19 suspect or positive patients/units continue to be restricted and consideration of exceptions will be made by care teams on a case-by-case basis; and
- case-by-case exceptions also exist for visits to patients in labour and delivery, pediatrics and end-of-life care.