

Essential Care Partner (ECP) Guidelines

Inpatient and Obstetrical Units | Effective Dec 30'21

PROOF OF VACCINATION (2 DOSES) REQUESTED UPON ENTRY

All Essential Care Partners entering the hospital will be screened, and must:

	Be COVID-19 negative, free of any symptoms, not have a test pending or been told to self-isolate		Wear a hospital- provided procedure mask for the entire visit and perform frequent hand hygiene
	Not travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days and been told to self-isolate or had contact with a sick person who has travelled		
	Not had close contact with a person who has or is suspected to have COVID-19 *this includes patients*		Practice physical distancing (2m or 6ft from others)
	Review the education material when entering the hospital		Wear the sticker identifying that they have been successfully screened
	Enter and exit through designated doors, and leave when asked to do so		Stay in the patient's room during the visit, and do not visit other areas of the hospital
	No children under 12 years of age (unless special circumstances i.e. end of life)		In all circumstances, partners in care are the <u>same person/people</u> and are not to be substituted

If your loved one is a patient in the:

Inpatient Unit:

- Limited to TWO designated essential care partners - these should be family members/close friends that the patient would normally have close interaction with outside the hospital
- ONLY these two designated essential care partners will be able to visit the patient - no social visitors are permitted at this time
- Essential care partners are able to come to the hospital from 9am to 7pm each day
- You will be asked to avoid coming in and out during your visit
- Both essential care partners may visit at the same time, however if your loved one is in a shared room, you may be asked to limit this to one person at a time and stay inside the patient curtains
- Please refrain from bringing in non-essential items such as books, magazines, food and drinks

Outside of the set hours, essential care partners will be limited to the following circumstances (subject to review on a case by case basis):

- Parent of a minor (under the age of 18)
- Partner of a patient giving birth
- ECP of a frail senior or a patient with special needs (e.g. dementia, the need for discharge/teaching plan, etc.)
- Close relatives of a terminally ill/end-of-life patient (limits will apply at discretion of care team)

Obstetrical Unit:

- Patients in the labour and delivery and post-partum unit will be limited to ONE to TWO essential care partners for the duration of their stay
- You will be asked to avoid coming in and out during your visit

NOTE: Patients who are COVID positive or have a COVID test pending will not be permitted essential care partners until they have been removed from isolation.

Stay in touch with loved ones:

We want to make sure you can stay in touch with your family and friends during this time.

The following alternatives are available:



Telephone

Dial main hospital number and press "0" to request EXT.



Free Wi-Fi

Bring your own device to stay in touch



Virtual Visit

Use FaceTime or Skype to visit with loved ones

Want to set up a visit?
Email:

patientexperience@whca.ca



E-Card/Mail

Send an e-card message that staff will print out and deliver to your loved one (*visit website to send e-card*)

Send traditional "snail mail" to your loved one

For more information:

www.gmch.ca

www.nwhealthcare.ca