

November 2, 2020

Dear Patient/Patient Family Member:

SUBJECT: Hospital/Health Centre –Visitor Access during COVID-19 – Pandemic Response Level Red

As current COVID-19 transmission levels are at a critical level in the Winnipeg Metropolitan Area, this is to advise that, effective **November 2, inpatient visitor access will be suspended at Concordia Hospital** with the following considerations and precautions:

- For most inpatients, visitation is suspended. Case-by-case exceptions exist for visits to patients in labour & delivery, pediatrics and end-of-life care, at the discretion of the site/care team. Exceptions also exist for visitor or designated support person to be allowed on a case-by-case basis in the emergency department. Refer to <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-inpatient-visit-principles.pdf>.
- If a patient's length of stay reaches 14 days and discharge is unlikely to occur in the next 72 hours, one (1) designated visitor can be identified to visit and will be allowed to visit for the remainder of the patient's stay in hospital/health centre.
- *Designated Support Persons are those deemed essential to the emotional wellbeing, health, and quality of life of your loved one. In most cases, visitors should be close family and/or friends who have a clearly established pattern of involvement in providing care and support.*
- Visits by transport workers or essential travelers (those whose work may require travel outside of Manitoba making them unable to pass screening requirements related to travel) may also be permitted in certain situations, including labour and delivery, pediatrics and end of life care. Visitors will follow site precautions, including use of appropriate PPE.
- Based on evaluation of risk as well as operational clinical judgement, the site may be unable to facilitate visits for certain patients.

Your care team will reach out to you to obtain the name of your Designated Support Person. At that time, you are encouraged to address any further enquiries you may have regarding visitation.

Please ensure your visitor(s) are informed of the following requirements:

- Visits must occur during the site's visiting hours between 8:00am – 7:00pm.
- Screening of all visitors must occur, including assessment for symptoms or known exposure to COVID-19, prior to entry. Restrictions will apply to visitors who have travelled outside of Manitoba within the past 14 days (excluding travel to Western Canada, the Territories or Ontario west of Terrace Bay). No visitor shall be permitted if they have any cold/flu or other COVID-19 symptoms.
- All designated visitors must comply with Infection Prevention and Control measures. This includes strict hand hygiene and maintaining physical distancing (6 feet/2 metres apart) at all times.
- Visitors may be required to wear medical PPE at the direction of the care team. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
- Designated visitors will be asked to sign in at the time of their visit(s). This information will be retained solely for the purpose of Public Health contact tracing should a COVID-19 case investigation be required within a unit.

Regular assessment by public health officials of the impact and evaluation of the need for adjusted visitor restrictions will continue as developments evolve. Once again, thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we take every measure to protect you, your loved ones and our staff.

Sincerely,

Katherine Graham | Interim COO/President

 **Concordia Hospital / Concordia Place**