

## Visiting Policy

### Visiting Hours

Resident Council has set the visiting hours between 10:00am – 9:00pm.

### Sign-In

Please ensure that when you are coming to the home you sign into the Log sheet and sign out, filling in the required spaces. We are still mandated to keep the log sheets for 30 days in case there is an outbreak, as the health Unit will require it for contact tracing.

The measures outlined below should be carried out during non-high-risk periods of COVID-19 transmission. Please refer to PHO's Interim Infection Prevention and Control Measures Based on Respiratory Virus Transmission Risk in Health Care Settings for more information on classification of periods of high-risk transmission, and non-high-risk transmission.

### Masking Requirements

#### *For staff, students, volunteers, and support workers:*

Masking will be based on a point-of-care risk assessment (PCRA), consistent with existing Routine Practices, and on the return-to-work protocol following COVID-19 infection (see section below on staff isolation). A PCRA must be completed by every health care worker before every patient interaction and task to determine whether there is a risk to the health care worker or other individuals of being exposed to an infectious agent, including COVID-19, and determine the appropriate IPAC measures to be taken.

Residents or substitute decision makers, who request that a staff member wear a mask when providing care, must be adhered to in alignment with the Residents' Bill of Rights, including the right to participate fully in making any decisions concerning any aspect of their care.

Staff may consider wearing a mask during prolonged direct resident care (defined as one on-one care within two meters of an individual for 15 minutes or longer).

Masks are no longer required in administrative and staff-only areas (e.g., lunchrooms, offices, gyms).

*For caregivers and visitors:*

Masks are recommended, but not required, in all areas of the home.

This means that caregivers and visitors may now join in for meals or refreshments in communal areas.

*For residents:*

Residents are not required to wear a mask inside of the home. It is recommended they wear a mask when attending a community outing, as tolerated.

Homes must also have policies for individuals (staff, students, volunteers, support workers, caregivers, visitors, or residents) who:

- Have a medical condition that inhibits their ability to wear a mask or are unable to put on or remove their mask without assistance from another person.

Hand Hygiene

Hand hygiene is a critical component in preventing the transmission of infectious diseases. Please refer to PHO's hand hygiene webpage for more details.

Access to alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) and/or handwashing stations are available at multiple, prominent locations in the setting, including entrances, common areas, and at point-of-care (e.g., client/resident rooms). This is to promote frequent hand hygiene, and signage will be posted to remind all staff, visitors, and clients/residents of the importance of performing hand hygiene.



## Physical Distancing and Cohorting

Currently, there are no COVID-specific requirements or restrictions related to physical distancing or cohorting when not in outbreak.

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Caregivers and general visitors may accompany a resident for meals or social gatherings. When caregivers or visitors are joining a resident in a communal dining setting or social gathering, they are no longer required to remain masked for the duration.

Sherwood Park Manor will continue to have meal visits in the large activity room. Please advise if you are bringing in the meal or require the resident to have their regular meal, and if you are providing feeding assistance. This must be done a minimum of 2 hours in advance.

## Community Outings/Visits

Visitors are expected to call the nursing station in advance if you are planning to take a resident off the grounds for an extended period. Nursing will assess and ensure the resident is well and able to attend the outing. 613-342-5531 ext. 103

For overnight visits, visitors are expected to call the nursing station 24-48 hours in advance to ensure the resident has their medications prepared. You will need to sign the release of responsibility form to receive the medications for the resident. 613-342-5531 ext.103

## Absences

Per section 6 of the Minister's Directive, the Manor is required to ensure that the resident absence requirements, as set out in this guidance document, are followed.

Currently, there are no COVID-specific requirements or restrictions related to absences.

The Manor will not restrict or deny absences for medical, palliative, or compassionate reasons at any time. This includes when a resident is in isolation or when a home is in an outbreak.



When a resident who is self-isolating on additional precautions is required to leave the home for a medical absence, the Manor will notify the health care facility so that care can be provided to the resident with the appropriate additional precautions in place.

### During an Outbreak

Well visitors who choose to visit during an outbreak, and who are not going to be providing direct care to an ill resident, will be asked to:

- Consider wearing PPE if they plan to visit again in the next week.
- Perform hand hygiene when entering the Manor, and before entering/leaving the resident's room.
- To visit residents only in their rooms and avoid communal areas.
- If possible, visit only one resident and leave the Manor immediately after the visit; if multiple residents are in the home but in different locations, it is recommended that the healthy resident(s) (non-outbreak case) be visited first.
- To not mingle with other residents.

In addition to these recommendations, visitors who choose to visit during an outbreak, and are going to be providing direct care to an ill resident, will be asked to wear the appropriate PPE.

Moreover, the following recommendations apply regarding visitor restrictions:

- Notices will be placed on the door of the rooms of ill residents or in other visible locations, advising all visitors to check at the nursing station before entering the room. Visitors are to be advised of the above visitor restrictions.
- Ill residents should be visited in their room only.

General visitors should postpone all non-essential visits to residents within the outbreak area, for the duration of the outbreak.

Caregivers, support workers, or individuals visiting a resident receiving end of life care, are allowed when a resident is isolated or resides in an area of the Manor in an outbreak, provided they can comply with the PPE recommendations below.



Appropriate PPE for a suspect or confirmed case of COVID-19:

- A well-fitted surgical/procedure mask or a non-fit-tested N95 respirator (or approved equivalent).
- An eye protection device. (goggles, face shield, or safety glasses with side protection)
- A gown.
- A set of gloves.

Ill visitors shall not be permitted in the Manor, unless under extenuating circumstances. Under these circumstances, they will wear the appropriate PPE, perform hand hygiene upon arrival, as needed during their stay and when leaving both the room of the resident and the Manor, and finally, they should restrict their visit to the one resident.

In the event of a COVID-19 outbreak, Sherwood Park Manor will follow the direction of the local public health unit, including cohorting practices, as outlined in the COVID-19 Guidance: Long-Term Care Homes, Retirement Homes, and other Congregate Living Settings for Public Health Units.

