

OUR VISION: OUTSTANDING CARE - NO EXCEPTIONS!

OUR MISSION: PROVIDE QUALITY PERSON-CENTRED HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO OUR COMMUNITY.

Media Release

February 6, 2022
For Immediate Release

WRH ADJUSTING POLICY TO ALLOW TWO ESSENTIAL CAREGIVERS (ONE AT A TIME) TO VISIT A PATIENT; SOME LIMITS AND RESTRICTIONS STILL APPLY

WINDSOR, ON _ Windsor Regional Hospital is adjusting its restrictions on who can visit a patient at either the Met or Ouellette Campuses, as well as the Regional Cancer Centre to allow more visits by essential caregivers for patients.

Starting at 12:01 am on Monday, February 7th, WRH will allow a maximum of **TWO** essential caregivers, chosen by the patient, to rotate over the patient's stay in the hospital (however, only **ONE** of the essential caregivers may be at the bedside at a time within the allotted visitation). This replaces the “no visitor” policy which went into effect on December 30, 2021, amid concerns about rising numbers of cases of COVID-19 in our community. The overall burden of disease of COVID-19 in our community has plateaued somewhat, though it remains high.

For patients that are palliative/end of life, WRH will allow **FOUR** essential caregivers to rotate over the patient's stay 24 hours per day; however, a maximum of two (2) essential caregivers may be at the bedside at a time within the allotted visitation.

Any essential caregiver of an in-patient or in attendance with a patient for an out-patient procedure will **continue to be required to provide:**

1. Documented proof of their COVID-19 vaccination, with 14 days having passed since their second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

OR

2. A negative community based PCR (polymerase chain reaction test) or a community-based antigen test result taken within 3 days before their visit.

We continue to not allow essential caregivers to visit patients with active confirmed or suspected COVID-19. Resolved cases may have essential caregivers visit as identified in exceptions below. Limited exemptions available for patients who are palliative/end of life with no aerosol generating medical procedures, and parents/guardians of a child with confirmed or suspected COVID 19.

All essential caregivers must wear a medical-grade mask and eye protection at ALL times and in ALL areas of the hospital. If essential caregivers do not have one they will be provided with a medical-grade mask at the entrance. Cloth masks by themselves will not be allowed.

All essential caregivers are required to wear a face shield in addition to a mask while visiting a patient. Face shields will be provided to essential caregivers on entry to the hospital or on the unit. Please refer to our [policy](#) regarding these issues and limited exemptions for patients/essential caregivers not to wear a mask.

Visitation Hours:

- 8 am to 10 am and 6 pm to 8 pm (except Critical Care units)
- 10 am to 12 pm, and 8 pm to 10 pm (Critical Care units only)

For department-specific restrictions as well as specific hours for mental health, dialysis, the emergency department, paediatrics and newborns, as well as additional information, please view the [visiting the hospital link here](#).

The hospital also continues to support the use of technology to connect with your loved ones through virtual options, like FaceTime, or telephone calls. You can [request a virtual visit here](#).

We appreciate your understanding of these visitor limitations while we continue to work to keep protect our community and our keep our hospital system functioning.

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