Family and Community COVID-19 Update
December 16, 2021

With the Omicron variant of COVID-19 spreading alarmingly through our communities and cases more than doubling in the last week, Waypoint has made the difficult decision to reduce visitation and suspend overnight and day leaves effective December 17, 2021.

We know that this is difficult news to hear as we enter the holiday season, but this decision aligns with our partner hospitals and is a necessary precaution we must take to protect our patients, staff and community. While visitation is limited, our teams are making every effort to increase the availability of virtual visits as a way to connect with loved ones while this temporary measure is in place.

A reminder that all visitors, designated essential caregivers and others coming to the hospital require proof of vaccination along with photo identification, or must provide documentation they have been granted a provincially recognized medical exemption from a physician or nurse practitioner. There are some limited exceptions such as palliative situations.

Everyone who enters the hospital is screened for illness and provided personal protective equipment, including eye protection, to wear while at the campus.

If you are coming to the hospital, please remember to let the treatment team know if you are bringing any items for the patient. Food or drink cannot be consumed during a visit and any food brought in for patients must be prepackaged so it can be stored appropriately. Homemade food and food requiring refrigeration is not permitted in any circumstance.

As a further safety precaution, the hospital is also pausing all external food deliveries and work is underway to implement collective food orders. Stay tuned for more details.

Vaccination continues to be an important tool against the pandemic. This week the Ontario government announced it was expanding eligibility for 3rd dose boosters to anyone over age 18, as well as shortening the interval to three months following the second dose.

Waypoint has been offering 3rd dose boosters to eligible patients and will continue offering these with the expanded eligibility. We are also now offering 3rd dose boosters to eligible staff on-site at the hospital in an effort to keep everyone safe.

We are continuously monitoring the situation closely so we can re-establish more visitation once it is safe to do so. Our hospital remains focused on infection prevention and control, and the safety of patients, clients, staff and our community.

Resources for Patients and Families
Supports for patients and families are available from our Spiritual Care Team, the Patient/Client and Family Council and the Patient Relations Office. More information can be found at www.waypointcentre.ca/patients___families
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Spiritual Care</strong></th>
<th><strong>Patient/Client &amp; Family Council</strong></th>
<th><strong>Patient Relations Office</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Multifaith Chaplains and Traditional Healer 705-549-3181, ext. 2850</td>
<td>A peer-led organization committed to using personal experiences to improve mental health &amp; addiction services 705-549-3181, ext. 2222</td>
<td>Available to listen to your feedback and work to answer your questions and resolve your concerns 705-549-3181, ext. 2999</td>
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