

To: All Staff, Professional Staff, Learners and Volunteers

From: Jennifer Wintermans, VP, Quality and Corporate Affairs, COVID-19 Lead, and Adam Vinet, VP, Patient Experience and Chief Nursing Executive, Regional VP, Cancer Care Services

Date: December 12, 2022

RE: **Essential Care Partner/Care Partner Guidance**

To align with the memo circulated on December 9th, 2022 regarding the move to [COVID-19 Response Level Orange \(Restrict\)](#) please note that *Version 12* of the Essential Care Partner and Care Partner Guidance document should be referenced under the **Orange “Restrict”** category. The document can be found on the iNtranet: [Guidance Document - Care Partner/Essential Care Partner](#).

At this time, we continue to allow unlimited ECPs and CPs (2 at a time) 24hrs, for end of life patients and 2 ECPs daily for palliative care patients (1 at a time). All other admitted patients are allowed 2 ECPs (1 at a time).

These restrictions will continue to be reviewed as we look to balance the need to provide both safe and compassionate care.

It is recognized that compassion and complex variables that often impact the patient care needs do not always align with these restrictions; there are considerations for exceptions. In situations that must deviate from the guidance, please make certain this is managed at the unit level. Unit level decisions must consider all factors with each individual and the level of activity upon the unit. As well, if the unit is in outbreak then there are added pressures that must be considered.

As a reminder, ECPs should be reminded of mandatory masking and follow the requirements as per ECP guidelines. Physical distancing should continue to be encouraged.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.