

**Visiting and Infection Control Reminders and FAQ's:**

This memo provides important information for families and caregivers regarding visiting procedures and infection control measures currently in place at Thompson House. We appreciate your cooperation in following the below procedures during your planned visits.

**Self-Screening Checklist**

Refrain from visiting if you answer YES to any of the below:

Experienced a fever temperature > 37.8°C?
Had any new or worsening symptoms such as Cough, Chill, Body Aches, Difficulty Breathing, Loss of Smell/Taste, Sore Throat, Runny Nose, Headache, Nausea, Vomiting, and/or Diarrhea?
Been advised to be isolated by a doctor, nurse practitioner, health care provider, or federal border agent?
Tested positive or been diagnosed with any respiratory or enteric infections (e.g. stomach/bowel)?
Been in close contact with a positive case of RSV, Influenza, COVID-19 or any other infectious disease?

**Visiting Procedures**

<b>Essential Caregivers (ECG)</b>	<b>Non-Essential Visitors</b>
Permitted in Thompson House at any time.	Contact Annabell Marcelo at ext.566 to schedule visits.
Must wear surgical/K95 mask, and face shield or goggles as needed.	Must wear surgical/K95 mask, and face shield or goggles as needed. Visits will occur in designated areas away from resident floors.
Self-monitor for symptoms, perform self-screening checklist, passive & active screening available at Thompson House reception. <u>Please do a COVID-19 rapid test before visiting residents in isolation.</u>	Self-monitor for symptoms, perform self-screening checklist, passive & active screening available at Thompson House reception. <u>Not recommended to visit residents in isolation.</u>
Must have at least 3 doses of COVID-19 vaccination (Thompson House Policy).	Contact Annabell Marcelo at ext.566 to learn how to become an Essential Caregiver.
*For information on IPAC rules or to become an essential caregiver, contact our Manager of Family and Resident Services, Annabell Marcelo, at ext. 566.	

**Restrictions in Place during Outbreaks:**

Wear a surgical or K95 mask, eye protection (goggles or face shield) obtained from the front desk or the impacted floor, as the situation dictates.
Additional PPE may be required for visits to residents in isolation. Please check in with the RN or RPN on the floor for specific directions.
Roommates in the same rooms as exposed or confirmed cases will remain on droplet contact precaution as well for 5 days from symptom onset day, plus additional 5 days of masking. If masking cannot be maintained for the residents, then DCP will continue for total of 10 days at minimum. *Note that these guidelines are subject to change based on Public Health direction and each unique situation.
Admissions, discharges, and transfers will be put on hold for the duration of outbreaks.
Non-essential medical appointments will be rescheduled.
Leave of absence for symptomatic and positive residents is on hold during the period of an outbreak.
Mandatory passive screening applies to all staff and visitors, including those entering the outbreak unit, requiring them to check in at reception, review the screening checklist, and sign in and out.
General visitors to outbreak units are postponed; Essential care providers to asymptomatic residents, palliative, and EOL is permitted.
Visitors to Residents under droplet contact precaution and positive for Influenza and other known viruses should postpone the visit for the duration of the outbreak.
Visitors returning from absences or travel should self-screen. Stay home if ill. Contact the unit nurse for guidance.
Symptomatic visitors who may have contacted the resident since the outbreak onset must notify nursing to initiate appropriate resident precautions.
Group activities will be discontinued until the outbreak ends; activity options are being considered for asymptomatic residents.
Staff and residents from affected and non-affected outbreak areas will not be mixed. Rotation of staff during outbreak period is paused.

**Important Reminders for Visitors:**

**Stay up-to-date on vaccinations:** Continue with COVID-19 vaccinations and receive your annual flu shot. Consider the RSV vaccine.

**Infection Prevention:** We maintain rigorous infection prevention and control measures in collaboration with our IPAC hub partners and Public Health. This includes ongoing environmental cleaning, disinfection, and adherence to isolation protocols. Do not enter Thompson House if you have any symptoms of COVID-19, the flu, or gastrointestinal illness. If diagnosed with COVID-19, isolate for 10 days. If diagnosed with Influenza or other respiratory or gastrointestinal infections, isolate for a minimum of 5 days plus an additional 24 hours after respiratory symptoms subside, or 48 hours after gastrointestinal symptoms subside.

**Droplet Contact Precaution:** Droplet Contact Precautions are infection control measures to prevent the spread of diseases transmitted through large respiratory droplets and direct or indirect contact with the infected person or their contaminated environment.

**Policy Updates:** We continually review and update our policies based on current information and best practices.