



Grandview Lodge

Comfort. Compassion. Care.

657 Lock St. W
Dunnville, ON N1A 1V9

July 15, 2021

IMPORTANT MESSAGE: UPDATE TO DIRECTIVE #3 GUIDELINES EFFECTIVE JULY 16th, 2021 (Specific to staff and home operations)

To Grandview Lodge Residents, Staff, Families and Friends,

Consistent with the cautious easing of measures set out in the province's Roadmap to Reopen and responsive to the high immunization rates achieved to-date in the LTC sector, we are continuing with the gradual easing of restrictions at Grandview Lodge. Inline with Step Three of the provinces broader reopening plan these changes will take effect July 16th. Please see the changes listed below.

Effective July 16TH, 2021:

Surveillance Testing

- Staff, visitors, students and volunteers who are **fully immunized**, and have provided the government issued immunization document, will **no longer be subject to surveillance testing** requirements when attending a long-term care home.
- Those who are **not fully immunized** or any individual who chooses not to disclose their vaccination status will be required to complete the minimum frequency of rapid antigen testing which is **one (1) time per week in Step 3**.

Active Symptom Screening

Homes are required to have an active screening program for entry. Any staff who enters the home, with the exception of emergency first responders, are to be actively screened by a screener for signs and symptoms as they enter the building. Homes may establish their own screening process based on needs and the characteristics of the home but must include, at a minimum, the questions set out in the current version of the Ministry of Health's COVID-19 Screening Tool for Long-Term Care Homes and Retirement Homes.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- **Universal Masking:** All staff must wear a medical mask for the entire duration of their shift, both indoors and outdoors, regardless of their immunization status.
- **Eye Protection:** is only required when caring for a resident who is isolating for COVID-19 or COVID-19 symptoms or during an outbreak.

- **Hand Hygiene:** please sanitize your hands often, follow the 5 moments of hand hygiene and remind your resident to do the same.

A point of care assessment should be completed upon contact with any resident and staff are encouraged to use PPE as indicated based on your assessment inclusive of N95 masks and eye protection.

Activities

Communal Dining

- Fully immunized staff may accompany a resident for meals including for the purposes of either having a bite of food to prompt residents who require the assistance to increase their intake or to assist a resident with feeding.
- Staff are not permitted to eat in the nursing stations. Consumption of fluids is acceptable but only when seated and physically distanced from other staff. Staff may not consume beverages or snacks in the presence of residents other than at meal times and when identified in the residents plan of care – as above.
- NOTE: fully immunized visitors may have snacks with residents in their room or share a meal at a separate table in the activation area/other designated area – see visitor guidelines on separate copy.

Organized Events and Social Gatherings

All long-term care homes can have organized events and social gathering with the following precautions considered. Group social outings for residents may also resume.

- Cohorting (when indoors).
- Masking, including for residents where possible or tolerated.
- Activities such as those involving singing, dancing, etc. are permitted both indoors and outdoors.
- Limiting room capacity to allow physical distancing.
- Cleaning and disinfection of high touch surfaces between activities and room use.

Fully immunized visitors who are in a home per the home's visitor policy and who have passed screening may join residents during activities in all homes, both indoors and outdoors, unless otherwise directed by the local public health unit.

As with every revision to the directives during this ever evolving situation, any and all actions listed in this document are subject to change as directions change and as we reevaluate our procedures and look for improvements in our processes.

The best way to protect against transmission and infection is through vaccination. All staff are required to follow the home's immunization policy.

If you have any questions regarding any of these new procedures please contact anyone from the leadership team.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all staff for your ongoing commitment to ensuring the values of our home and resident centered approach to care are always at the forefront during your work day. There are many homes who continue to take the most restrictive approach under the directives and guidelines in an effort to keep their residents safe. Your demonstrated ability to follow best practices and infection prevention and control measures allow us to take a more relaxed approach and maintain a safe environment for all. As we continue to open our home, we are bringing the joy back and you can feel it in the halls. Make no mistake, the lives of our residents are enriched by your willingness to be exceptional!

Residents First, GVL Proud!

Jen

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