

PEMBROKE REGIONAL HOSPITAL

MEMO

TO: All Staff and Physicians

FROM: IPAC and Occupational Health

DATE: December 17th, 2021

SUBJECT: PRH Visitor Policy Changes Related To
COVID-19 Omicron Variant of Concern



Emerging evidence indicates that the Omicron variant is significantly more transmissible than previous variants of concern.

In order to best protect our staff, physicians, patients and community, PRH is adapting the following regional recommendations with regards to our Visitor Policy effective Monday, December 20th:

- Each admitted patient may designate ONLY 2 visitors and 2 essential caregivers/care partners for the duration of their stay.
- ONLY 1 designated visitor can visit the patient per day.
- Essential caregivers/care partners (ONLY 1 at a time) may be present at the patient's bedside at the same time as a visitor.
- Where possible, visitors on a unit should be staggered to avoid congestion.
- Unlike essential caregivers/care partners, visitors can ONLY visit patients between the hours of 11:30 a.m. and 8:30 p.m.
- The current list of exceptions for essential caregivers/care partners and visitors will be maintained (such as in end-of-life circumstances).
- Outpatients can only bring an essential caregiver/care partner if necessary and if safety can be maintained.

It should also be noted that all designated individuals must pass entrance screening prior to entering the hospital.

Recognizing the impact these changes have on our patients, especially at this time of the year, we will be letting the public know that gifts for patients from friends and loved ones who are not designated visitors can be dropped off at the screening desks in the coming days, so long as they are clearly labeled with regards to who they are for.

As always, our Visitor Policy is subject to further changes and restrictions based on public health guidance.