

Covid-19 Resident Update – October 12, 2021

We continue to experience changes in the Public Health Orders for long-term care and assisted living residences and as such we are required to put in place procedures to ensure that we are adhering to the most current Orders from the Ministry.

As such, the latest Orders, coming into effect today state the following:

"Individuals visiting long-term care homes or seniors' assisted living residences (both essential and social visitors) must be fully immunized against COVID-19, excluding children under 12 years or those with an approved medical exemption (fully vaccinated means seven days after the second dose).

Proof of vaccination (e.g., BC vaccine card or equivalent) is required at the time of entry into the facility. Visitors who do not demonstrate that they are fully immunized will not be able to enter a facility, including passing through the facility to access an outdoor space. Exceptions related to compassionate care such as end-of-life care, will be considered on an individual case basis with additional preventative measures required to support visits involving partially or unvaccinated individuals.

Fully immunized visitors are still required to wear a medical mask while moving through the facility and in common areas." (the mask can be removed once inside a resident's suite)

What does this mean for The Cedars residents, staff, volunteers and visitors?

No one can enter the building if they do not demonstrate that they are either partially or fully vaccinated (excluding children under 12 years or those with approved medical exemption).

Until a visitor is confirmed as fully vaccinated they must:

- Wear a medical mask for the duration of the visit
- o Undergo rapid testing at the point of entry to the building (excluding those under 12 years). If the test is positive, the visitor must not enter the building.

PLEASE TURN OVER...



Visitors who are not fully vaccinated may visit outdoors but must wear a medical mask while visiting on the property.

Any unvaccinated resident who is away from the building for more than 24 hours either in the community or in hospital will have to isolate for 14 days on return.

While we respect the right of choice that people have regarding vaccinations, we are required to put in place operating procedures that are governed by the Public Health Orders. These more stringent visitor restrictions will mean that if you have family members or visitors who are unvaccinated you will need to visit with them outside of The Cedars.

As mentioned, these Orders are regularly updated depending on new data and information; as they change I will keep you informed of the changes that impact you or operations here at The Cedars.

3rd Dose/Booster Shots

Some of you will start to receive letters from the Ministry of Health informing you that you are eligible for a 3rd dose vaccine. You can book an appointment for your shot at any clinic that is providing vaccines or you can call 1-833-838-2323 to book an appointment.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Karen Hope, Executive Director