



November 20, 2020

## **UPDATE TO ALL FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

Hello, we have not further positive results today. All of the residents on Wexford were tested as of yesterday and all of the residents on Cavan are being tested today. Keep those positive thoughts and prayers for negative results.

Yesterday, we received the formal updated guidance on surveillance testing from the Ministry of LTC for the long-term care home sector as was mentioned in the Update yesterday.

The following are the sections relevant to Visitor testing:

### **Visitor Testing**

1. With respect to visitors to long-term care homes located in public health unit regions in the Orange-Restrict, Red-Control or Lockdown levels, **effective Monday, November 23, 2020:** (Ottawa)

o Homes should ensure that caregivers provide proof of a negative COVID19 test result in the past week and verbally attest that they have not subsequently tested positive prior to visiting.

o Proof of a negative COVID-19 test result may be demonstrated by providing the home the results of the test (e.g. printout or on a mobile device showing the individual's name, test date and result). Homes must ensure that this collection of personal health information and any subsequent use or disclosure complies with the Personal Health Information Protection Act, 2004 (PHIPA). We will not be keeping this information but will document that it has been received.

St. Pat's will be implementing this new guidance as follows:

The implementation of these new requirements will be phased in to ensure that designated caregivers have an opportunity to schedule Covid19 testing appointments and have a weekly result.

- Covid19 Test results received prior to November 23 will be accepted for the prior 2 week period until Nov. 30. However, as of Nov. 23 designated caregivers must provide proof of a negative result. Please be prepared to provide the screener with the proof of a negative Covid19 test.
- All Covid19 test results on and after November 23 are valid for only one week. Please schedule your appointments for testing to ensure that you have a negative test result in the past week.

2. With respect to visitors to long-term care homes located in public health unit regions in the Green-Prevent or Yellow-Protect levels:

***St. Patrick's Home of Ottawa, 2865 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K1V 8N5 (613) 731-4660***

o Homes should ask all caregivers and all support workers to verbally attest to having received a negative COVID-19 test result in the past two weeks and not subsequently tested positive prior to visiting.

o Homes should ask any general visitor visiting indoors to verbally attest to having received a negative COVID-19 test result in the past two weeks and not subsequently tested positive.

Let's hope Ottawa moves to a Yellow-Protect category soon!

Please find below a summary of the testing requirements determined by the risk level of a region:

INDIVIDUAL	Green- Prevent	Yellow- Protect	Orange- Restrict	Red- Control	Lockdown
Staff/Volunteers	Tested twice monthly		Tested Weekly		
Designated Caregivers	Verbally attest to a negative Covid-19 test result in the past two weeks, not subsequently testing positive		Provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test result in the past week and verbally attest to not subsequently testing positive		
Support workers providing direct care to residents			Verbally attest to a negative COVID-19 test result in the past two weeks, not subsequently testing positive		
Support workers not providing direct care to residents					
General Visitors visiting indoors			Not applicable; visits not permitted.		

Staff will now be tested weekly. Staff testing is scheduled for Tues, Wed. and Thursday next week and then will be schedule weekly going forward while we are in Orange-Restrict subsequently weekly. The results for the in-house testing comes directly to the Home so we can confirm negative test results. Staff who do not get tested at St. Pat's must provide us with results within the required time periods and are excluded from working until they provide the necessary negative test result.

Be well,

**Janet Morris**  
President and CEO