

Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Guidelines for Essential Caregiver (EC) Presence at Copernicus Lodge

The following guidelines are for our essential caregivers and are intended to keep staff, residents, visitors and our communities safe. Only one EC can be present in a shared resident room at one time. Please do not bring personal belongings inside.

Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Guidelines for Essential Caregivers	
General IPAC measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Resident room doors must remain open at all times during visits, unless a staff is present providing care. This is in place to ensure our staff and leaders are able to monitor adherence to IPAC protocols at all times. <input type="checkbox"/> ECs should keep a safe distance of 6 feet/2 meters from all other residents and staff in the home. <input type="checkbox"/> ECs must remain in the resident's room and on their side of the room at all times, unless they are on a brief walk for exercise with their loved one in the hallway <input type="checkbox"/> ECs are not permitted to visit other residents/units, staff lounges, kitchenettes, or common areas. <input type="checkbox"/> EC's are not permitted to use washrooms on resident floors or in resident rooms. They may use the dedicated visitor washroom on the main floor or ground floor of Copernicus Lodge only. Staff will provide directions <input type="checkbox"/> When the visit is over, ECs must leave the floor and go directly to the exit for screening. Please do not stop in other areas of the home such as lounges, tea room, staff offices etc.
Personal Protective Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> ECs will be provided with 1 disposable surgical/procedure mask and 1 face shield when they enter the building. Any additional PPE for a resident on isolation precautions will be provided on the floor by the staff before you enter the room <input type="checkbox"/> EC's must wear a mask and face shield at all times while in the building, without exception <input type="checkbox"/> If the resident care area is on outbreak, all residents will be in droplet-contact precautions and you will need to wear gloves and gown. If you are unclear on how to safely put these on and remove, please ask a member of the care team. <input type="checkbox"/> Gown and gloves must always be removed before exiting room and never worn outside resident room. <input type="checkbox"/> When the visit is complete, the EC will return to the LTCH exit where they will remove their face shield and mask and dispose of it as they leave the building.
Hand Hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> ECs will be asked to clean their hands using hand sanitizer upon entering and exiting the building, upon entry to and exit from the resident's room, and frequently during the visit (including prior to and after any physical contact).
The Essential Caregiver's involvement in feeding of residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> When an EC will provide support with feeding, they must be provided with training on safe feeding practices and sign off completion of the training. <input type="checkbox"/> Assistance with repositioning, use of lift, or showering/bathing is not permitted. <input type="checkbox"/> The EC must be observed supporting feeding by the registered dietician on a minimum of 1 occasion, and it must be confirmed by the dietician that no further training is required prior to feeding without supervision. <input type="checkbox"/> EC are only permitted to feed residents in their rooms. <input type="checkbox"/> EC must report any resident safety concerns immediately by pulling the nurse call bell in the resident's room. If no immediate response, please find a staff member on the floor and ask for assistance
Resident belongings and food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> To minimize opportunities for transmission of the virus, personal belongings are not to be brought in to residents. If you have an essential item that you would like to provide to a resident, you must follow our regular drop off process by dropping items at the reception desk at the front entrance. <input type="checkbox"/> All items being delivered that cannot be wiped down/sanitized, will be held for 72 hours prior to delivery to residents <input type="checkbox"/> Food in wipeable, disposable single serve containers for immediate consumption is permitted to be brought if EC attends to support feeding. Food will not be stored in the resident room or in a unit refrigerator and will be disposed of following the meal. Reheating/microwaving of outside food by residents, EC's or staff is not permitted. Should the home be in outbreak, no outside food will be permitted. <input type="checkbox"/> Caregivers are not permitted to eat or drink while on a resident floor or in a resident room. All food or drink must be consumed outside the home, without exception. <input type="checkbox"/> There is NO SHARING of food or drink with any resident at any time.