

Visitation with Residents and Families at Bethany Cochrane – 04 November, 2020

Dear Families and Residents,

Alberta Health has been consulting with residents, employees and families in continuing care centres to find a balance between keeping resident's safe and allowing increased visitation and connection with loved ones. **Effective July 23**, under the orders from the Chief Medical Officer of Health, we will be shifting from a "restricted access" to a "safe access" approach. Bethany Cochrane has created a local visitor policy specific to its site after consulting with residents, family and employees.

We understand this announcement is welcome news to residents and families and appreciate your patience as we carefully reviewed and considered the best way to implement this order at all Bethany sites. Below please find the guidelines for visiting at Bethany Cochrane. We ask that you carefully review the process for scheduling a visit, as well as the steps we are taking to ensure all of our residents remain safe, which remains our highest priority.

Connecting with your loved ones is important and Bethany will continue to help ensure that you can do this, both through technology and by carefully following our visitor guidelines.

Designated Family/ Support Visits	Residents (or alternate decision maker) may name up to two individuals for this role for indoor visitation. The site leadership must be informed of these individuals. Designates must be over the age of 18.
Outdoor Visitation	No outdoor visits at this time.
Children as visitors	Minor children (18 and under) are permitted to visit for end of life visits if accompanied by an adult.
Pets as visitors	One pet is permitted at all visits; in accordance with our Bethany pet policy.
Location of visitation	Indoor: Two designated/support persons may visit together in the resident room or courtyard. Only one designated/support person may visit in shared care spaces (i.e. dining rooms). You must only visit with your resident.
Safety Precautions	All visitors must be screened and wear Bethany provided appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the duration of the visit.

	Non-compliance with site practice may affect future visits.
Instances where visitation will not be permitted	All visitations will cease if Bethany Cochrane goes into outbreak. If a visitor breaches the guidelines including disruption of continuous masking, future visits may be suspended.
Guidelines for end-of-life visitation	3 visitors will be permitted to visit residents at end of life. End-of-life is at the discretion of site management in consultation with the attending physician and nurse practitioner

We know these are important developments for our residents and families and are pleased to be able to provide opportunities for visitation with loved ones.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we ensure these guidelines are implemented appropriately and safely to minimize the risk and prevent the potential spread of COVID-19 at Bethany Cochrane.

Yours sincerely,

Monica Johnson,
Acting Site Administrator, Bethany Cochrane