



# **Yee Hong Centre For Geriatric Care**

**頤康中心**

## **Yee Hong LTC Resident and Family information guide**

### **Admission, Transfer, and Absence of Residents during Pandemic**

#### **Yee Hong Centres**

Finch

McNicoll

Markham

Mississauga

15-Dec-2021

## **PUPRPOSE**

During the current pandemic, residents and staff in the Long Term Care Homes (LTCH) are at increased risk for exposure to COVID-19 and adverse outcomes associated with an exposure. The goal of this guidance document is to minimize the potential risks associated with the ongoing COVID19 pandemic, while balancing mitigating measures with the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual needs of residents for their quality of life.

As the COVID-19 pandemic evolves, this guide will be adjusted as necessary, keeping the safety and well-being of residents and staff at the forefront. Admission, transfer, and absence guidance change often based on Directives given by the Ministry and guidelines provided by the local public health unit region (York, Toronto, and Peel) in which a Yee Hong home is located.

On December 15, 2021, the Ministry of Long-Term Care has announced temporary enhanced measures for all long-term care homes in light of the highly transmissible Omicron variant. These temporary enhanced and responsive measures are necessary to provide optimal safety and support to residents while balancing the mental and emotional well-being of residents and their families, and to safeguard the staff who are critical to the care of residents.

One of these enhanced measures include:

- Day absences limited to residents who are fully vaccinated
- Suspended overnight absences for social purposes

In addition to the enhanced measures, all residents, staff and caregivers are strongly urged to receive a booster / third dose as they become eligible, as the latest available evidence shows that three doses of vaccine are more effective against the Omicron variant than two doses.

### **Definition:**

A person is fully immunized against COVID-19 if:

- They have received the full series of a COVID-19 vaccine or combination of COVID-19 vaccines approved by Health Canada (e.g., two doses of a two-dose vaccine series, or one dose of a single-dose vaccine series); and

15-Dec-2021

- They received their final dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at least 14 days ago.

Rapid Antigen Test is used for screening and any preliminary positive results will need to be confirmed with the PCR COVID-19 test.

### **Absences/Admissions/Transfers**

- **Day absences**

- Day absences for social purposes are permitted for fully vaccinated residents only.

- **Overnight absences**

- Overnight absences for social purposes are being suspended, regardless of vaccination status. Residents who wish to leave the home overnight for social purposes will need to follow the appropriate discharge process, as required in section 147.1 of O.Reg.79/10 (General) under the Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007 as well as the re-admission protocol when they return at a later date.
- Essential, medical and compassionate and palliative absences are still permitted, regardless of vaccination status.

### **Requirements upon return/admission/transfer to home**

- **Day absences:**

- Actively screen residents upon return;
- Rapid test and PCR test on day 3 following absence, followed by a PCR test on day 7. No isolation is required unless positive result is received.
- If known exposure to a case, PCR test on day 1 and day 7 and isolate until a negative result is confirmed from day 7.
- Resident, if tolerated, will wear a mask in common areas and will have separate dining until a negative COVID-19 from day 7 is confirmed.

- **For all return/admissions/transfers to the home (not including day absences):**

- A PCR test is required prior to admission or on day 1, and on day 7. Isolation is required until a negative result is confirmed from day 7 (the test prior to admission is only valid the day of, or from the previous day).

15-Dec-2021

- Do enhanced symptom screening on admission and twice daily for 10 days following the return/admission/transfer.

### **Absences.**

There are 4 types of absences:

1. Medical absences are absences to seek medical and /or health care
  2. Compassionate and palliative absences include, but not limited to, absences for purpose of visiting a dying loved one
  3. Short term (day) absences or Social absences are absences that are less than or equal to 24 hours in duration
  4. Temporary absences include absences involving 2 or more days and one or more nights for non-medical reasons
- For all types of absences listed above, staff are to provide a medical grade mask to the residents to be worn as tolerated. Residents are also remind to follow public health measures, such as physical distancing and hand hygiene, while they are away from the home.
  - Residents who are on a contact and droplet precautions and/or reside in an area of the home that is in an outbreak cannot participate in short or temporary absences but can leave for medical, palliative or compassionate reasons.

### **Infection Prevention and Control best practices for residents and family members during absence**



**Clean your hands.** Clean your hands using hand sanitizer, rubbing thoroughly over all areas of your hands.



**Wear a mask.** Wear masks if tolerated when visiting others.



**You MUST avoid high-risk activities.** Avoid any high-risk activities such as large gatherings or contacting people with any COVID-19 symptoms during absence.



**You MUST maintain physical distance.** Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated residents and families must maintain physical distance except for a brief hug during the visit.

- We thank you for your cooperation.

# How to handwash

Lather hands for 15 seconds



1 Wet hands with warm water.



2 Apply soap.



3 Lather soap and rub hands palm to palm.



4 Rub in between and around fingers.

Lather hands for 15 seconds



5 Rub back of each hand with palm of other hand.



6 Rub fingertips of each hand in opposite palm.



7 Rub each thumb clasped in opposite hand.



8 Rinse thoroughly under running water.



9 Pat hands dry with paper towel.



10 Turn off water using paper towel.



11 Your hands are now safe.



**JUST CLEAN  
YOUR HANDS**

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## HOW TO WEAR A SURGICAL MASK



WASH YOUR HANDS  
BEFORE  
WEARING A MASK



ENSURE THE PROPER  
SIDE OF THE MASK  
FACES OUTWARDS



LOCATE THE METALLIC  
STRIP AND PLACE IT  
ON THE NOSE BRIDGE



SECURE THE STRINGS  
BEHIND YOUR HEAD  
OR OVER YOUR EARS



COVER MOUTH  
AND NOSE FULLY  
MAKING SURE THERE  
ARE NO GAPS



PRESS THE METALLIC  
STRIP TO FIT THE SHAPE  
OF THE NOSE



REMOVE THE MASK  
FROM BEHIND BY  
HOLDING THE STRINGS  
WITH CLEAN HANDS



DISPOSE THE MASK IN  
A CLOSED BIN WITHOUT  
TOUCHING THE FRONT



SURGICAL MASK  
PLACED CORRECTLY



DO NOT TOUCH THE  
MASK WHILE USING IT,  
IF YOU DO  
WASH YOUR HANDS



REPLACE THE MASK  
IF IT GETS DAMP  
AND DO NOT REUSE IT