



Yee Hong LTC Resident and Family Information Guide

Admission, Transfer, and Absence of Residents during Pandemic

Yee Hong Centres

Finch

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Mississauga

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PURPOSE

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.

Ontario is cautiously and gradually easing public health and workplace safety measures. In long-term care homes, many public health measures remain in place. Yee Hong's top priority is the health and safety of our seniors and staff.

All residents are allowed to go on day and overnight social absences regardless of their vaccination status. For **all absences**, residents will be:

- Provided with a medical mask when they are leaving the home
- Provided a handout that reminds residents and families to practice public health measures such as masking and hand hygiene when outside of the home

There are 4 types of absences:

1. **Medical absences** are absences to seek medical and/or health care and include:
 - a. outpatient medical visits and a single visit (less than or equal to 24 hours in duration) to the Emergency Department
 - b. all other medical visits (for example, admissions or transfers to other health care facilities, multi-night stays in the Emergency Department)
2. **Compassionate and palliative absences** include, but are not limited to, absences for the purposes of visiting a dying loved one

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3. **Short term (day) absences** are absences that are less than or equal to 24 hours in duration. There are two types of short term (day) absences:
 - a. **essential absences** include absences for reasons of groceries, pharmacies, and outdoor physical activity
 - b. **social absences** include absences for all reasons not listed under medical, compassionate/palliative, and/or essential absences that do not include an overnight stay

4. **Temporary absences (overnight)** include absences involving two or more days and one or more nights for non-medical reasons

Resident who are on a contact and droplet precaution may not participate in essential, social, or temporary absences. Homes will seek the advice of local public health unit if self-isolation must be broken for these reasons. However, residents who are on a contact and droplet precaution can leave for medical, palliative or compassionate reasons. Health care facility will be notified if an isolated resident leaves the home for a medical absence, so that care can be provided to the resident with the appropriate additional precautions in place.

Upon return from an absence, Residents will not be required to be tested or isolated unless they have respiratory symptoms. Residents will be actively screened with temperature checks if they have been exposed to an individual that tested positive for COVID-19 or is exhibiting symptoms while absence.

In addition to the enhanced measures, all residents, staff, and caregivers are strongly encouraged to get their COVID-19 vaccine up to date.

Up to Date COVID-19 vaccination for our residents mean that they have received all COVID-19 vaccine dose(s) as recommended by Health Canada.

Residents of Long-Term Care Homes are recommended to receive three booster doses to be up to date with their COVID-19 vaccines.

The first booster dose is recommended ≥ 3 months after the last dose of their primary COVID-19 vaccine series. The second and third booster doses are recommended ≥ 3 months after the previous booster dose.

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Requirements upon return/admission/transfer to home

Day and Overnight Absences (medical, compassionate, or short term social or essential), upon return the resident will be asked if they have been exposed or in close contact to a confirmed or suspected COVID cases, and exhibiting any respiratory symptoms during their absence

- If “No” to above, resident can resume normal activities.
- If “Yes” to above,
 - resident will be encouraged to wear a mask in common areas. Resident will be assigned to a designated eating table/area away from others (6 feet apart) for 7 days as eating is considered a high-risk activity.
 - Resident will be monitored twice daily for 7 days.
 - No isolation or testing is required unless resident is showing symptoms. If a timely PCR test is not available, 2 RATs 24 hours apart may be used as an alternative.

For admissions/re-admission:

- All residents who are being admitted or transferred to a home must undergo screening regardless of their COVID-19 vaccination status.
- If an asymptomatic resident is coming from community or another LTCH, RH, or a health care facility that is NOT experiencing a COVID-19 outbreak at the time of transfer:
 - testing is not required.
 - Resident will be actively screened twice a day for 7 days
 - Resident will be encouraged to wear a mask in common areas if tolerated,
 - Resident will be assigned to a designated eating table/ area to be separated from others (6 ft apart) for 5 days.
- Any resident being admitted, regardless of their COVID-19 vaccination status, who is identified as having symptoms and/or a diagnosis of COVID-19 must be tested, isolated and placed on Additional precaution.

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- If the resident is coming from another health care facility is on outbreak:
 - Active screening upon arrival.
 - Enhanced (twice daily) symptom monitoring.
 - Resident should be admitted to a private room, and wear a well-fitted mask, if tolerated, when unable to physically distance from others for 7 days.
 - Consultation with PHU for any concerns.

Note: Residents who have been COVID-19 positive in the past 90 days may not be required to undergo testing and quarantine requirements when returning from an absence unless they have symptoms of COVID-19.

*Assuming hospital is not in outbreak, resident is not symptomatic and/or had been exposed to COVID-19. If the hospital is in outbreak the PHU will advise on testing and quarantine requirements.

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