

MEMO

Date: March 27, 2020 **UPDATED**

To: Health System Leaders, Acute Care Facilities, Long Term Care Facilities

From: **Dr. Brent Roussin**
Chief Provincial Public Health Officer
Lanette Siragusa, Provincial Lead
Health System Integration & Quality,
Chief Nursing Officer, Shared Health

Re: **COVID-19 – Visitor Restrictions at Long-Term Care Facilities, including Adult Day Programs**

Given the evolving COVID-19 situation, we are now implementing elevated precautions to protect our patients, many of whom have underlying medical conditions that put them at greatest risk of becoming severely ill due to COVID-19.

Public health officials and health system leaders have agreed to the following measures:

For **Long-Term Care Facilities**, we are strongly recommending the immediate suspension of visitor access. Exceptions for compassionate reasons or end of life should be made on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of individual facility managers.

For **Adult Day Programs** and similar programming located within long-term care or personal care facilities, we are strongly recommending the immediate suspension of all programming.

All other Adult Day Programs may continue provided they comply with the recommendations of social distancing, appropriate screening and do not exceed the recommended restriction on social gatherings of more than 10 people.

The following individuals should **NOT** participate in **Adult Day Programs**. Those who have:

- Returned from travel, including travel within Canada, in the last 14 days: OR
- Had *exposure to a confirmed case of COVID-19; (Note: Exposure may include scenarios like: large events or settings with confirmed case(s) of COVID-19).
- Cold or flu-like symptoms (cough, fever, runny nose, sore throat, weakness or headache),

Updated signage is available for facilities to print and post indicating these temporary measures to all visitors. Signs are available by referring to: <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/ltc-poster-letter-size.pdf>



In addition, a letter for family members or residents in long term care facilities is available here <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-family-ltc.pdf> and in Word version by contacting your region's senior leadership.