



Update: Family Presence during a Pandemic Policy Directive (Directive applies to SHA Facilities, homes, and Affiliate Organizations.)

The directive follows the Public Health Order (PHO). The PHO will be reviewed December 17, 2020.

General Directive Content to Highlight with Teams:

- Family member/support persons are now referred to as **Essential** family/support persons.
- There are three possible levels of family presence restrictions during the pandemic.
- Flexible/creative approaches will enhance family presence when there are limitations such as:
 - physical layout;
 - capacity of staff; or
 - operational constraints
- Medical grade masks are a requirement for everyone in all SHA indoor facilities.
- The local leadership and MHO will review restrictions (unless otherwise noted in the PHO):
 - two weeks after the initial restriction is put in place; and
 - weekly while restrictions remain in place.
- FAQs have been updated and there is now a section specific to long term care.
- Appendix F now has columns for: resident outings, outdoor visiting and frequency of visiting.

Understanding Level 2: Compassionate Care Reasons for Family Presence:

- Long term care family presence is currently restricted to Level 2: Compassionate Care Reasons.
- Quality of life/care needs are key to understanding/arranging family presence in level 2.
- Compassionate care reasons does not limit family presence to end-of-life care only.
- Extended inpatient care includes those admitted for more than 30 days with unmet quality of life/care needs.
- Outpatient or urgent care patients with specific challenges can have one essential family/support person present.

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some of the challenges you've experienced related to family presence during COVID-19? What strategies can we put in place to address these challenges? Who can help?
2. How can we find creative ways to support family presence this holiday season? What processes do we have in place? What might need to be developed?
3. FAQs are available at [Saskatchewan.ca/covid19](https://saskatchewan.ca/covid19). Are there questions we should submit?

Questions and Feedback can be forwarded to: pfcc@saskhealthauthority.ca

