



### Guidelines for Visitation during Outbreaks

Staff should discourage visitors from attending the home during an active outbreak due to the risk of transmission to the visitor themselves and to other residents. A site cannot close completely to visitation unless directed by an order from the Medical Officer of Health as it may cause residents and visitors emotional hardship.

Well visitors/private care givers who choose to visit during the outbreak and who are **not** going to be providing direct care to an ill resident are asked to:

- Perform hand hygiene when entering the home.
- Perform hand hygiene before entering and upon leaving the resident's room.
- Visit residents only in their rooms and avoid communal areas.
- Visit only one resident and leave the LTC site immediately; if multiple residents are in the site but in different locations, it is recommended that the healthy resident(s) (non-outbreak case) be visited first.
- Not mingle with other residents.

In addition to the preceding list, well visitors who choose to visit during an outbreak and **are** going to be providing direct care to an ill resident should be asked to wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment for the type of Additional Precautions in place.

Staff are responsible to instruct visitors on how to put on and remove PPE.

Ill visitors/private caregivers will be asked not to visit in the home until they are feeling well, unless under extenuating circumstances. Consult the site Infection Control Professional to discuss the circumstances and appropriate safety measures in detail. Generally, under these circumstances, visitors should wear the appropriate PPE, perform hand hygiene at the appropriate times and restrict their visit to a single resident.