



Visiting Hospital During COVID-19

This handout explains our vaccination policy for visitors, our screening process, and other important information to help you plan your visit to hospital. Information may change. Check www.gbhs.on.ca for updates.



Vaccination Policy for All Visitors

All visitors are required to show government issued photo identification and proof of full COVID-19 vaccination (2 doses) upon entering any GBHS facility, unless you have an approved medical exemption. This policy does not apply to patients. If you need medical care, or have an appointment, do not delay, regardless of vaccination status.

Acceptable proof of vaccination is the Ontario Ministry of Health vaccination receipt (digital or a paper copy) or the Ontario Enhanced Vaccine Certificate. Full vaccination is achieved 14 days after your second dose of COVID-19 vaccine.

To download or print a copy of your Vaccination receipt, call 1-833-943-3900 or visit www.ontario.ca/proofofvaccination.

Visiting Policy

If you are sick, please stay home. Visitors with symptoms of COVID-19 cannot enter the hospital. You will be screened upon arrival.

Visitors are important to the health and wellbeing of patients and as with all our visitor policies throughout the pandemic, there will be exceptions. Exceptions to allow non-vaccinated visitors include:

- End of life
- Parents/guardians of children
- Women in labour
- Patients with accessibility needs

Screening, Other Restrictions in Place While Visiting

- Upon entry, visitors will be asked to state the reason for their visit, and will be asked a series of COVID-19 screening questions
- Visitors visiting inpatients are required to sign in for contact tracing
- Masks must be worn at all times while in the hospital
- Food and drink are not permitted for visitors

- Visits must take place in patient rooms. Patients are not permitted off the unit
- Visitors cannot leave the building and return during the same visit time
- Children under 12 are not permitted to visit
- COVID positive patients cannot have visitors
- Maintain physical distancing, and clean your hands frequently while in hospital

Visitors Permitted

To enable physical distancing, there are limits on the numbers of visitors permitted within all GBHS hospitals. Please see the chart below.

Patient Category / Location	Number of Visitors Permitted Per Day	Hours
Inpatients	One designated visitor per day. Must be the same person for duration of patient's admission.	1 pm - 6:30 pm
Day Surgery	Come alone unless support is required for accessibility reasons. Must be identified prior to surgery to the clinical team.	24/7
Oncology & Chemotherapy	Come alone unless support is required for accessibility reasons.	24/7
Ambulatory Care	Come alone unless support is required for accessibility reasons.	24/7
Emergency Department	Come alone unless support required for accessibility reasons.	24/7
Medical Imaging & Cardiology	Come alone unless support is required for accessibility reasons.	
Obstetrics/Labour & Delivery	One visitor for labour and delivery. Post-partum, the same visitor can remain in hospital with the mother for the duration of admission.	24/7
Pediatric (Under 16)	Two parents/guardians (Inpatients & Outpatients)	24/7
End of Life	Two visitors at a time. Clinical team to establish with family.	24/7

We appreciate your support and patience as we work together to keep our communities healthy and safe.

If you have any questions, please contact Patient Relations at 519-376-2121 Ext. 2308.