

Dom Lipa Long Term Care Home's Visitation Policy

This COVID-19 Visiting Policy is provided to safely receive visitors while protecting residents, staff and visitors from the risk of COVID-19.

This policy is effective on September 9, 2020. All previous versions of the visiting policy are revoked and replaced with this version. As the COVID-19 outbreak evolves, direction on LTC home visits will be adjusted as necessary, keeping the safety and well-being of residents and staff at the forefront.

Under Directive #3, Dom Lipa residents may receive up to a maximum of 2 general visitors at a time. This applies for indoor and outdoor visits. Dom Lipa may further limit the number of general visitors at a time to maintain safety.

Every resident may receive at a minimum 1 visit by a general visitor a week, lasting no less than 30 minutes.

Repeated non-adherence to Dom Lipa's Visitation policy and visitor rules could be the basis for discontinuation of visits.

Types of Visitors

Essential Visitors

Essential visitors are persons performing essential support services (e.g., food delivery, inspector, maintenance, or health care services) or a person visiting a very ill or palliative resident.

Essential visitors include *support workers* and *caregivers*. A *support worker* is a type of essential visitor who is visiting to perform essential support services for the home or for a resident at the home. A *caregiver* is a type of essential visitor who is designated by the resident and/or their substitute decision-maker and is visiting to provide direct care to the resident (e.g., supporting feeding, mobility, personal hygiene, cognitive stimulation, communication, meaningful connection, relational continuity and assistance in decision-making). A maximum of 2 caregivers may be designated per resident at a time. The designation should be made in writing to the home. Examples of caregivers include family members who provide meaningful connection, a privately hired caregiver, paid companions and translators.

An essential visitor does not need to be a support worker or caregiver, as long as they meet the definition under Directive #3.

Dom Lipa will advise on a case by case basis if essential visitors are allowed when a resident is self-isolating or symptomatic, or the home is in an outbreak. During an outbreak, and/or a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, the local public health unit will provide direction on visitors to the home, depending on the specific situation.

General Visitors

A general visitor is a person who is not an essential visitor and is visiting:

- a) To provide non-essential services, who may or may not be hired by the home or the resident and/or their substitute decision maker; and/or,
- b) For social reasons e.g., family members or friends

Access to Homes and Outbreak Areas

Essential Visitors

Visits for essential visitors are permitted as follows, subject to direction from the local public health unit:

- Any number of support workers may visit a home.
- Where the home is not in an outbreak
 - If the resident is not self-isolating or symptomatic, a maximum of 2 caregivers per resident may visit at a time.
 - If the resident is self-isolating or symptomatic, a maximum of 1 caregiver per resident may visit at a time.
- Where the home is in an outbreak, a maximum of 1 caregiver per resident may visit at a time.
A caregiver may not visit any other resident or home for 14 days after visiting another
 - Resident who is self-isolating or symptomatic; and/or
 - Home in an outbreak.

General Visitors

A maximum of 2 general visitors per resident may visit at a time, subject to direction from the local public health unit, provided:

- the resident is not self-isolating or symptomatic; and,
- the home is not in an outbreak.

General visitors younger than 14 years of age should be accompanied by an adult and must follow all applicable infection prevention and control (IPAC) precautions that are in place at the home.

Scheduling

- Dom Lipa has established scheduling practices that consider the staffing and space capacity available to maintain the safety of residents, staff and visitors. This includes staff capacity to support the transfer of residents out of and into the visiting area, which may be indoor or outdoor. A visit must be booked in advance with an Activities Coordinator to allow for appropriate physical distancing and staffing coverage.

Frequency and Length of Visits

Dom Lipa may require general visitors to limit the frequency of their visits, provided at least one visit from a general visitor is allowed per resident per week, as long as the home is not in an outbreak and the resident is not self-isolating or symptomatic. This will depend on the home's ability to schedule in an equitable manner.

Dom Lipa has the discretion to limit the length of visits by general visitors; however, each visit should be at least 30 minutes long, starting from the time the visitor and resident have arrived in the visiting area.

When exercising discretion to limit the length of visits by general visitors, Dom Lipa will consider the:

- Needs of residents, including their clinical and emotional well-being.
- The total number of visitors in the home.
- Space available in the location for physical distancing.

Screening

All visitors should pass active screening on entry for symptoms and exposures for COVID-19, including temperature checks, and attest to not be experiencing any of the typical and atypical symptoms.

All support workers, all caregivers, as well as any general visitor who is visiting *indoors*, should verbally attest to the home that they have tested negative for COVID-19 within the previous two weeks and not subsequently tested positive.

For clarity, this applies to all support workers and caregivers, regardless of whether they visit indoors or outdoors, since they will be providing support services and/or direct care to residents. Note that where a support worker requires immediate access to the home in an emergency situation, the home does not need to ask for a verbal attestation for a negative COVID-19 test result. All caregivers and general visitors should verbally attest to home staff that, in the last 14 days, they have not visited another home in an outbreak or a resident who is self-isolating or symptomatic. Prior to visiting any resident for the first time after the COVID-19 Visiting Policy is released, and at least once every month thereafter, caregivers and general visitors should verbally attest to the home that they have read/re-read the home's visitor policy. Additionally, prior to visiting any resident for the first time after this policy is released, the home should provide training to caregivers that addresses how to safely provide direct care, including putting on and taking off required PPE, and hand hygiene. The home should also provide retraining to caregivers, with the frequency of retraining indicated in the home's visitor policy. Visitors should consider their personal health and susceptibility to the virus in determining whether visiting a long-term care home is appropriate.

The following visitors should verbally attest to home staff that they have tested negative for COVID-19 within the previous two weeks and subsequently not tested positive:

- All support workers. (Note that where a support worker requires immediate access to the home in an emergency situation, the home does not need to ask for a verbal attestation for a negative COVID-19 test result.)
- All caregivers.
- Any general visitor who is visiting indoors.

General visitors are responsible for bringing their own non-medical mask (e.g. cloth masks, or face coverings) for outdoor visits. Dom Lipa will supply surgical/procedural masks for indoor visits while quantities last.

Essential Visitors will be supplied with all other required PPE, including surgical/procedural masks while quantities last.

Physical Distancing

General visitors and residents are strongly encouraged to practice physical distancing for the duration of their visit. However, visitors who have passed all screening requirements, including having verbally attested to not testing positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 days, could engage in close physical contact (i.e. less than 2 metres) with a resident to support their emotional well-being provided the visitor and resident wears a surgical/procedure mask (regardless if the visit is indoor or outdoor) as

source control. The surgical/procedure mask is in addition to other measures expected to be in place such as, but not limited to, screening of all visitors entering the facility and hand hygiene.

Dom Lipa will provide appropriate information to visitors to support safety measures. For clarity, a general visitor who is visiting outdoors may engage in close physical contact (i.e. less than 2 metres), as described above, provided they verbally attest to the home that they have tested negative for COVID-19 within the previous two weeks and not subsequently tested positive.

If a resident has cognitive issues and may not be able to physically distance Dom Lipa will review the visitation on a case-by-case basis to determine what strategies can be implemented to support a visit.

Physical distancing where the resident has hearing impairments.

Visitors who have passed all screening requirements, including having verbally attested to not testing positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 days, could engage in close physical contact (i.e. less than 2 metres) with a resident to support communication provided the visitor wears a surgical/procedure mask (regardless if the visit is indoor or outdoor) as source control. The surgical/procedure mask is in addition to other measures expected to be in place such as, but not limited to, screening of all visitors entering the facility and hand hygiene.

For clarity, if a general visitor is visiting outdoors and needs to engage in close physical contact (i.e. less than 2 metres), they may do so, as above, provided they verbally attest to the home that they have tested negative for COVID-19 within the previous two weeks and not subsequently tested positive

Supervision

The successful resumption of visits in homes is dependent on trust. Similar to the verbal attestations that are given at the time of active screening, Dom Lipa will be trusting that visitors will comply with all rules and that there is no need for supervision. In some cases, though, Dom Lipa may need to supervise visits to support residents. Any necessary supervision practices implemented by the home will fully respect and promote the resident's right to communicate in confidence, receive visitors of their choice and consult in private with any person without interference.

During an Outbreak

In the event that a home enters into an outbreak, Dom Lipa will end all general visits immediately. During an outbreak, and/or a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, the local public health unit will provide direction on visitors to the home, depending on the specific situation. Dom Lipa must comply with all Chief Medical Officer of Health directives pertaining to outbreaks and follow directions from the local public health unit.

Slovenian Linden Foundation o/a Dom Lipa Visitor Requirements

Long Term Care Home Visitation Policy Effective September 9, 2020

I _____ have read and have understood the rules set up by Dom Lipa:

- A visit must be booked in advance with an AC to allow for appropriate physical distancing and staffing coverage.
- A visit's schedule will be based on the staffing availability & the Home's other activities (ex. meal time)
- A visit duration will be minimum 30 minutes
- Dom Lipa will facilitate at least one visit per week per resident, based on staffing coverage availability
- A visit is limited to two persons; no visiting pets are allowed, in designated areas
- Prior to the visit provide attestation of being tested negative for COVID-19, dated within the previous 2 weeks (from the scheduled visit). The home is not responsible for providing the testing.
- Arrive for the screening 5 min before the scheduled time
- A screener will greet you and instruct you to follow a screening procedure
- if you arrive earlier than 5 min, please wait in your car or in the parking off Dom Lipa property. If you are late for a visit, your visit may be shorter (a visit will end as per schedule)
- Pass an active screening questionnaire administered by home's staff
- Comply with Dom Lipa's infection, prevention and control (IPAC) protocols, including proper use of face or surgical/procedural masks and or a face covering for the outdoor visit.

Protection and Physical Distancing:

- Maintain a 2-meter distance from other people including a resident unless the resident has a hearing impairment and special accommodation is arranged (e.g. resident wears a surgical mask)
- You must properly wear a mask or face covering at all times during the visit and You must NOT remove a mask and/or face covering while speaking with the resident
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow
- Use alcohol based hand sanitizer frequently
- Try not to touch your eyes, nose or mouth
- Avoid touching surfaces or items unnecessarily
- Greet others with a wave
- Visitors are responsible for bringing their own mask or a face covering for outdoor visits. A surgical mask will be provided for indoor visits. A mask and or a face covering must be worn at all times during a visit.
- Respect physical distancing (minimum 2 meters or 6 feet) between the residents and staff
- No physical touch of the resident unless the special exceptions have been arranged for the resident's mental wellbeing and resident is wearing a surgical mask.

- Gifts to the resident at the time of the visit are not allowed (but can be left at the main entrance for a period of decontamination).
- Visitors must sanitize hands before and after the visit with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Any non-adherence to these rules will be the basis for discontinuation of visits.
- Visits may be rescheduled based on staffing difficulties, lack of PPE or other unforeseen reasons.
- A staff member will be in the visitation area at all times while fully respecting and promoting the resident's right to communicate in confidence, receive visitors of their choice and consult in private with any person without interference.

Name of the resident: _____

Date and time of the visit: _____ start end

Name of the visiting person:

Print

Sign

Date

Name and signature of the person screening: _____