

Changes to our ECP Policy

Family and Caregiver Responsibilities

Joseph Brant Hospital has updated its guidelines for Essential Care Partners (ECPs) in response to a surge in community transmission of the Omicron variant.

Our hospital appreciates the valuable role ECPs play in patient care. In keeping with our CARE Commitment, we will continue to work with patients and their families as we take additional steps to maintain a safe hospital environment in this phase of the pandemic.

What has changed?

As of December 30, 2021:

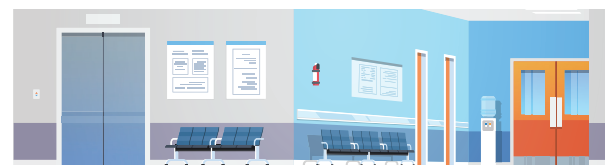
- There will be increased restrictions on the number of ECPs in the hospital:
- In inpatient areas, 2 ECPs can be designated, with only one (1) permitted to enter the hospital per day.
- Inpatient care for patients under 18: Two (2) Parents/legal guardians are permitted at the same time.

How do patients identify their ECPs?

Patients and Unit Clerks can identify ECPs by emailing myecplist@josephbranthospital.ca.

The following ECP guidelines remain in effect:

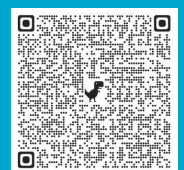
- ECPs will continue to be asked to provide proof of full COVID-19 vaccination at screening stations.
- Proof of vaccination includes a vaccine receipt or enhanced vaccine certificate with a QR code and government-issued photo ID.
- Those who are unable to provide proof of full vaccination or a valid medical exemption cannot enter JBH.



ENTERING THE HOSPITAL:

You must be a family member/ caregiver designated by the patient

- Use the entrance nearest to the patient.
 - If your loved one is in the North Tower: Enter through the North Tower
 - If your loved one is in the South Tower: Enter through the Pedestrian Bridge or South Tower Main Entrance
- Show your proof of full vaccination (or documented medical exemption), and government-issued ID.
- Successfully complete the COVID-19 screening assessment by:
 - scanning the QR code with your phone and entering code JBH2022 & showing your screening. Those who do not pass screening will not be permitted entry.
- Put on a hospital-issued medical grade mask.
- Go directly to the patient's room.



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- Exceptions are very limited and will be determined by the care team, such as:
 - Partners of women giving birth
 - Patients at end of life
 - Parents/legal guardians of patients under the age of 18
 - Proof of medical/human rights exemption.

ECP Guidelines

By entering our hospital, you are agreeing to follow these guidelines to ensure a safe hospital experience for our patients, loved ones, staff and community.

Coming to the hospital

- Stay home if you are sick
- Visiting hours (9 a.m. – 8 p.m.), with last entry at the screening station by 7:30 p.m.

While you are here

- Clean your hands when you enter and exit the hospital, and when you enter and exit the patient's room.
- Wear a mask for the duration of your time at the hospital.
- Stay in the patient's room, unless asked to leave while care or intervention is being provided.
- If bringing food for the patient, ensure it is packaged and not shared.
- Do not eat in patient rooms or in any other location in the hospital except the designated eating space on the 1st Floor South Tower (by the elevators). There is a time limit of 15 minutes to use this space.
- Do not use the patient washroom. Public facilities are located on Level 1.

Keeping connected

Wherever possible, patients are encouraged to connect with their loved ones by telephone or by video.

- To help keep connected, we are offering free telephone and Wi-Fi to patients.
- A patient's loved ones can also send an e-card through our website. Volunteers will deliver the greeting weekdays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Clothing, toiletries and other personal care items

Members of your health care team can help facilitate the delivery of clothing, toiletries and other personal care items to inpatients.

- These can be received at the screening desk on the Main Level of the South Tower (inside the Main Entrance).
- At this time, we are not accepting deliveries of food, beverages, flowers and gifts.

Sharing your feedback

Patients with concerns about our ECP policy are asked to share this information with their health care team so that they can work with you to meet your needs. If further support is required, please contact our Patient Relations team at 905-632-3737 ext. 4949 or by email patientrelations@josephbranthospital.ca.

We appreciate your understanding during this challenging time. Be assured that patients are receiving exceptional care in a way that protects their safety and that of others. If you would like to learn more about our hospital's response to COVID-19, please visit josephbranthospital.ca/covid-19.