



MEMO

To: All Staff and Physicians
From: Infection Prevention and Control
Date: July 6, 2022
Subject: Passive Screening Is Now In Effect At All PRH Entrances

Please note that our hospital has now transitioned from active to passive screening at all entrances.

This means that:

- All patients and visitors entering the hospital are directed by signage to sanitize their hands and take a new mask from a dispenser to wear for the whole time they are in our facility.
- Visitors are no longer required to show proof of vaccination upon entry.
- Patients who feel unwell are asked to ensure that the health care provider at their appointment is aware of their symptoms.
- Visitors are directed to return home if they feel unwell or have symptoms of any illness that may be contagious.

In addition, we have returned to use of our pre-COVID visitor policy which can be found on Policy Medical – *Visiting Hours, Visitation for Family and Public*.

During this transition period, we ask for your assistance and patience.

Should you encounter a visitor or patient who is not wearing a hospital supplied mask while in the facility:

1. Offer the individual one of our hospital grade masks.
2. Kindly explain why it's important that everyone be masked in a hospital which is considered a highest risk setting:
 - Suggested wording – *Those in our care are at risk of serious illness if they are exposed to COVID-19 which is why it's important to wear a mask at all times while in the hospital.*
3. If a visitor refuses to wear a mask (despite education), please follow normal escalation protocols:

- Contact your departmental manager or delegate (clinical resource/hospital charge nurse at extension 6820 after hours) for support.
4. Exceptions to mandatory masking for those in our facility are to be made on a case-by-case basis with the care team (for exceptional circumstances).

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation as we implement these changes.