

Keeping our community safe

Summary of COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidelines for Memory care and Assisted living in BC

Health and safety guidelines are rapidly changing in BC, and we are continually working on keeping up to date on the latest operating directives put out by the Ministry of Health and the BC Center for Disease Control. With the increased concern of the rapidly spreading Omicron variant, we are expecting that safety guidelines will continue to change to promote a reduction in transmission in our community. We at the Vineyards Residence are committed to doing our part to reduce the risk by following the guidelines and keeping you up to date.

Directive	The Vineyards Residence Protocols
<p>Visitors</p>	<p>Memory Care: Social visits have resumed at the Vineyards Residence. This means that family and friends who have not been classes as essential or designated visitors may visit. If at any point an outbreak is declared at the home social visiting will be postponed until the outbreak has been declared over. Those who have previously been Essential, or a Designated Visitors will be permitted to visit during the outbreak period, unless otherwise directed by the Covid team and the MHO. During outbreak all posted guidelines for Personal Protective Equipment must be followed and will be strictly enforced. Failure to follow PPE guides may result in restriction from further visits.</p> <p>Assisted Living: At this time there are no limits to the number of visitors indoors or outdoors a resident may have. However, we ask that you be mindful of number of people in your group. Note this may be subject to change based on restrictions during an outbreak period.</p>

<p>Visitor Vaccination</p>	<p>All visitors must be fully vaccinated to enter, proof of vaccination or exemption is required to be presented at time of entry. Exceptions to this are children under the age of 12 years old and end of life visits.</p> <p>Booster Dose – Is strongly recommended that all eligible individuals receive a third dose</p> <p>Medical exemption- Those visitors with proof of exemption must still take a rapid test with a negative result before entering.</p> <p>Visitors may be limited in outbreak situations as directed by the Covid team and the MHO</p> <p>Visiting hours are from 9am to 5pm daily</p>
<p>Entry Screening</p>	<p>To enter The Vineyards Residence Memory Care and Assisted Living, social, essential, and single designated visitors (12 or older) must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be asymptomatic for COVID-19 • Provide proof of full COVID-19 vaccination (or a documented medical exemption) • Have a negative result from a rapid POC test administered at the facility at the time of the visit (compassionate visits for end-of-life are exempt)
<p>Rapid Testing</p>	<p>All visitors 12 years and older are required to undergo a rapid test as part of the screening process.</p> <p>Visitors (12 or older) with a negative result from a rapid POC test administered during screening at the time of the visit and who have provided proof of vaccination (or a documented medical exemption), may enter the facility.</p>
<p>A Positive Test (If your rapid test is positive)</p>	<p>Visitors who receive a positive test result will not be able to enter the Vineyards Residence (with exception for compassionate visits related to end-of-life) and will be directed to self-isolate and visit the BCCDC’s website for more information on rapid testing.</p> <p>Following a positive rapid POC test result, visitors will be allowed to return to visiting The Vineyards Residence once they have completed</p>

	<p>their required self-isolation period as described by the BC CDC – Self-Isolation and Self-Monitoring.</p> <p>As of January 26, 2022:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully vaccinated visitors (essential and single designated) will be allowed to return to visiting a facility after 5 days and symptoms have improved. • Visitors with a documented medical exemption for vaccination will be allowed to return to visiting a facility after 10 days and the resolution of fever and symptoms have improved.
<p>Compassionate Visits (End of life)</p>	<p>Compassionate Visits are end of life visits and designated to when a person is deemed medically palliative. During this sensitive time family will be able to visit and spend as much time as desired. For these visits visitors will not need to screen in however visitors are required to wear a medical mask while in all common areas of the home.</p>
<p>While on a Visit Guidelines to follow while in the home</p>	<p>Masks:</p> <p>All visitors to The Vineyards Residence Memory Care, regardless to vaccination status are required to wear a medical mask in all common areas and hallways. Visits in private suites and in outdoor spaces i.e., patios masks are not required</p> <p>All visitors to The Vineyards Residence Assisted Living are required to wear a medical mask when in common areas of the residences. Masks at this time are not required when visiting in a private suite</p> <p>Hand Hygiene:</p> <p>All visitors need to practice proper hand hygiene and proper respiratory etiquette as well as follow all other Infection Prevention and Control procedures in place at The Vineyards Residence</p> <p>Common Areas:</p> <p>All visits to The Vineyards Residence Memory Care must visit in the resident’s private suite. Visitors are welcome to greet and collect the</p>

	<p>resident from any common area and drop them off at their desired area after the conclusion of the visit.</p> <p>All visits to the Vineyards Residence Assisted Living are encouraged to visit in the resident’s private suite, if visiting in common areas mask must be worn and as ask that you be mindful of other residents on the floor.</p>
<p>Visiting with Isolation Precautions</p>	<p>Visitors are expected to follow all additional precautions, including wearing of personal protective equipment as directed. Failure to follow proper precautionary measures will be excluded from visiting further.</p> <p>Signage will be posted when use of Personal Protective Equipment is in place. All required equipment will be provided outside the area for use along with direction on proper dressing (donning) and taking off (doffing) steps. If unsure, please ask for assistance from staff outside the isolated area(s)</p>
<p>Social outings and overnight visits</p>	<p>Resident may leave the facility for outings and family visits and there is no requirement for the resident to isolate or undergo rapid POC screening when they return from the outing.</p> <p>There is no restriction on the length of the outing, residents and family should keep in mind that settings outside the facility may not have the same Infection Prevention and Control practices and the risk of transmission for COVID 19 and other illnesses may be higher</p> <p>While out of the facility residents are strongly encouraged to follow general IPC best practices such as wearing a mask in public spaces and practice frequent hand hygiene.</p> <p>Residents can go on overnight visits if they choose and are supported by family.</p> <p>It is strongly recommended that individuals taking residents on outings or for overnight visits are fully vaccinated.</p>
<p>Surveillance Testing (Team members)</p>	<p>All team members are required to screen in daily and self-monitor for symptoms before each shift. Any staff may be requested at any time to rapid test if screening suggests even mild symptoms. Any team</p>

	<p>members working with proof of medical exemption on file will be rapid tested if symptoms are present and as directed by the MHO</p>
<p>Staff Vaccination requirements</p>	<p>Under PHO orders, employers in the health care sector are required to ensure workers are fully vaccinated as a condition of employment. All Staff working at the Vineyards Residence are required to be vaccinated against COVID 19. Proof of vaccination must be provided, and a copy is to be kept in the employee file.</p> <p>Any new applicants must provide proof to be eligible to be considered for employment with The Vineyards Residence. Staff hired prior to the PHO order must provide proof of vaccination or proof of exemption on or before October 26th, 2021.</p>
<p>Volunteers</p>	<p>Volunteers must be fully vaccinated and are expected to provide proof of full vaccination and adhere to app IPC requirements.</p>
<p>Medical Exemption (Visitors and team members)</p>	<p>Visitors</p> <p>Proof of deferral/ exemption along with ID must be provided at time of entry.</p> <p>Only physicians licensed and registered with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC and nurse practitioners licensed and registered with the BC College of Nurses and Midwives can issue vaccine exemptions.</p> <p>Visitors who wish to request a medical exemption to the vaccination requirement need to have a doctor or nurse practitioner fill out and sign the medical deferral form for visitors of health-care facilities.</p> <p>Team members</p> <p>Proof of deferral/ exemption must be included in your employee file. The Provincial Health Officer (PHO) has issued Preventive Measures Orders under the Public Health Act which require individuals who work in health care in BC to be vaccinated against COVID-19. These orders are intended to reduce COVID-19 case rates, outbreaks, hospitalizations, critical care admissions, and deaths, protect people who cannot be vaccinated, and protect our healthcare system.</p>

The PHO order states that “A request for reconsideration from a person seeking an exemption from the requirement to be vaccinated or to provide proof of vaccination must be made on the basis that the health of the person would be seriously jeopardized if the person were to comply with Order, and must follow the guidelines posted on the Provincial Health Officer’s website

(<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-healthofficer/current-health-topics/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>) .”

To be considered for an exemption you will likely have had a dose of vaccine and experienced a serious adverse event or have a pre-existing medical condition the warrants being exempted for a period of time. It is important to note that being exempted from a PHO order requirement is not equivalent to a permanent deferral to being vaccinated. Some people for whom a vaccination deferral has been recommended may get a dose at a later date. If you have been granted an exemption to PHO requirements, and you do get vaccinated at a later date, you should notify the PHO at the contact information below to update your exemption status. A decision to get vaccinated remains a decision for the individual in consultation with their health care provider.

Site : <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/covid-19/covid-19-exemption-guidelines-request-for-reconsideration.pdf>