

COVID-19 Restrictions

Licensed supportive living, long-term care and hospice OPERATORS AND STAFF

Lifting restrictions

- As of July 13, 2021, Alberta is moving into Phase 1 of a staged approach for lifting COVID-19 restrictions in licensed supportive living, long-term care and hospice settings.
- Some measures will be lifted first, followed by others at a later date.

Timing of lifting restrictions

- Since December 2020, there has been more than a 99 per cent reduction in the number of active COVID cases in these settings.
- The benefit of removing restrictions outweighs the impact of maintaining them.
- Vaccinations have provided significant protection for residents and staff in these settings.
- The best protection is to get fully vaccinated.

COVID-19 outbreaks

COVID-19 outbreaks may still happen and operators will still be expected to adhere to strict outbreak protocols.

Impact of changes

- Aside from a handful of preventative restrictions being maintained for the time being, **activities and processes on site will resume pre-pandemic status.**

Remaining restrictions

Until further notice, the following restrictions remain in place:

- Health Assessment Screening and continuous masking for staff, volunteers and service providers.
- Visiting persons are required to continuously mask while in common areas and be screened upon entry.
- Twice daily high-touch cleaning requirements in common areas.
- Select quarantine/isolation requirements
- Outbreak expectations

Rule setting

- Within the bounds of existing legislative requirements, operators may review pre-pandemic processes and/or house rules. **Operators are expected to work with residents and families in the decision making process.**
- Operators must have concerns and complaints processes in place and must support the formation and activity of Resident and Family Council for active inclusion of resident/family voice in operating decisions.

Visiting and Vaccines

- Unvaccinated visiting persons (including children under 12) are strongly encouraged to wear a mask in resident room/private areas (as well as in common areas, like all others), especially in high acuity settings.

Audits and inspections

- Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services will continue inspect/audit operators against CMOH Order and legislative requirements.

Additional information

- If an operator has questions not resolved by a relevant partner, they may email ASAL@gov.ab.ca.

References

- Continuing Care Standards: <https://www.alberta.ca/continuing-care-accommodation-and-health-service-standards.aspx>
- Disease Management Guidelines: <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/coronavirus-covid-19>
- Public Reporting: <https://standardsandlicensing.alberta.ca/>
- Alberta Health Services Infection Prevention and Control and Outbreak Management
 - <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/ipc/ipc.aspx>
 - <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/ipc/page6421.aspx>

Where can I find existing requirements for measures no longer in CMOH Orders?

Symptoms of COVID; Management of Exposures; Swab Collection	• Alberta Health Disease Management Guidelines
Contingency Plan	• Accommodation Standards (Std. 16) • Continuing Care Health Service Standards (Std. 17)
Involvement of resident and family in site decisions	• Resident and Family Councils Act • Accommodation Standards (throughout)
Role of Care Partners	• Continuing Care Health Service Standards (Std. 1)
Daily Health Screening of Residents	• Continuing Care Health Service Standards (Std. 11, Point of Care Risk Assessment)
Meal Times and Social and Leisure Activities	• Accommodation Standards (Stds. 12, 13, 14)
Access to and Guidance for Service Providers	• Accommodation Standards (Std. 9) • Continuing Care Health Service Standards (Std. 1)
Communication	• Accommodation Standards (throughout) • Continuing Care Health Service Standards (throughout)
Dispute/Concerns Resolution	• Accommodation Standards (Std. 24) • Continuing Care Health Service Standards (Std. 18)