

Volunteers and Visitors



The contribution that you make as a volunteer and/or visitor at a long term care facility is immeasurable and very much appreciated by the people you serve and care for.

Each year between October and May, influenza (commonly known as the flu) and other respiratory illness such as pneumonia and the common cold circulate throughout our country. Almost invariably, these infections are introduced into the facilities where you volunteer and/or visit. When this happens, it can have very serious consequences for the residents that live there. As such, we would ask that you do the following:

1. If you are a volunteer or visit this facility regularly, we highly recommend that you get the flu vaccine. This will protect you and our residents. A person who has been infected with the flu virus can spread it 24 hours BEFORE the onset of symptoms. For updates on this year's flu season or information on clinics offered in the community, contact Public Health at (705)743-1000 or by visiting the Peterborough Public Health website at www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca
2. If you do not want to consider receiving this vaccine or for medical reasons cannot take this vaccine, then should you become ill with the flu or any other communicable respiratory disease, **do not** attend this facility until a **MINIMUM** of 5 days **after onset of symptoms** from the illness, or until your physician indicates your infection is no longer communicable.
3. Wash your hands or use a hand sanitizer frequently...especially every time you enter this facility, before feeding a resident, after using washroom facilities.

By doing the above, you are helping not only to protect the residents you care about, but you may also be protecting yourself against these infections - and that is also an important consideration.

Your understanding and cooperation in this matter is very much appreciated not only by us, but the residents and people you serve and care for.

Thank you.