

Department of Medicine

Special Information Bulletin

September 30, 2020

FMC OUTBREAK SNAPSHOT - SEPTEMBER 29, 2020 AS OF 12PM

The Outbreak Management Team continues to investigate and actively manage the current situation at FMC. This includes the Calgary Zone Medical Officer of Health, IPC, WHS, Public Health, Environmental Services, Communications, Unit Management and Site and Medical Leadership.

Number of Confirmed COVID Positive Cases linked to the FMC Outbreak:

- **Patients: 31** (yesterday was 26)
- **Healthcare Workers: 27** (yesterday was 27)

Number of Health Care Workers currently restricted from work as a result of the outbreak: **290**

* The last reported number of 136 was as of September 26, 2020; the updated count today represents extensive contact tracing activity over the last three days.

Number of Deaths linked to the FMC Outbreak: **4**

Reminders

- Staff and physicians not fit for work based on the screening questionnaire should go home, self-isolate and complete the self-assessment tool for health care workers found [here](#) or call 811; please also contact your manager or medical leader.
- Please also consider your personal exposures outside of work as this has an impact on patient safety.

If additions/deletions from the FMC ALL distribution list are needed, please email Carol.Urban@ahs.ca

Thank you.

FMC VISITATION POLICY UPDATE - SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

Effective immediately, enhanced visitor restrictions will be in effect on a temporary basis at FMC.

These restrictions, recognized as being very difficult for patients, families, loved ones, staff and physicians, are temporary measures to help reduce exposure and spread of COVID-19 during the current outbreak situation. Please encourage and assist patients to use other methods to connect with their loved ones, such as phone calls or virtual/video connections.

Please refer to the attached FMC Visitation Policy Update for detailed information.

For visitors currently onsite, please inform them of these changes applicable to their next visit.

Thank you.

FMC Site Command Post

SCP email: SCP.Calgary.FMC@albertahealthservices.ca

Phone: 403-944-8181

Communications Team

Department of Medicine

Alberta Health Services – Calgary Zone and Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary

9th Floor, North Tower, FMC, 1403 - 29th Street NW, Calgary, AB, T2N 2T9

E: dom.announcements@ahs.ca | W: departmentofmedicine.com

FMC Visitation Policy Update – September 29, 2020

Effective September 29th, enhanced visitor restrictions are being temporarily implemented at FMC across all inpatients units.

These restrictions, recognized as being very difficult for patients, families, loved ones, staff and physicians, are temporary measures to help reduce exposure and spread of COVID-19 during the current outbreak situation. Please encourage and assist patients to use other methods to connect with their loved ones, such as phone calls or virtual/video connections.

Inpatient units – visitation is only permitted for end-of-life situations and for a pre-approved Essential Designated Support Person.

Emergency Department – 1 support person is permitted. This will be at the discretion of the Emergency Department Entrance Management Team.

Maternity and Postpartum – 1 designated support person is permitted.

Pediatrics and NICU – Up to 2 designated parents/guardians are permitted.

Ambulatory – no changes at this time, 1 support person is permitted.

Critical care – no changes at this time, up to 2 designated support people are permitted.

Police, Correctional Officers, and Peace Officers accompanying a patient for security reasons are permitted and not considered visitors.

End-Of-Life Visitation Guidelines

- The end-of-life definition, as per the provincial guidelines, is an expected death within 4 to 6 weeks.
- Up to 2 visitors at a time, on a sequential basis.
- When visitors are switching out, those waiting should do so outside of the hospital.
- There are no restrictions on the duration of the visit.
- There are no defined visiting hours.
- Children, under age 14 years old, must be accompanied by an adult.

Approvals for end-of-life:

End-of-life visitation is approved by the Unit Manager during regular business hours and delegated to the Charge Nurse after hours.

Essential Designated Support Person Guidelines

- An Essential Designated Support Person is defined as a caregiver or Disability Support Worker that is required to provide essential care for inpatients that cannot be provided in any other way. Only one Essential Designated Support Person is permitted per patient.

Approvals for Essential Designated Support:

Essential Designated Support Person visitation is approved by the Executive Director during regular business hours, and through the Site Command Post after hours (403-944-8181).

Outdoor visitation and patient passes

- Outdoor visitation on the hospital grounds is not permitted.
- Patient passes are not permitted for patients on isolation or patients from units on outbreak.
- Passes for non-outbreak units are permitted at the discretion of the unit manager in collaboration with the clinical care team.

Expectations of Visitors

- Be screened by the Entrance Management Team prior to entry with the expanded symptom list.
- Wear a medical mask continuously (provided by entrance management or unit).
- Practice social distancing of 2 metres/6 feet.
- Practice frequent hand hygiene.
- Proceed directly to/from the unit/patient care area and must not visit any other areas on site.

Visitors will NOT be permitted for the following reasons

- They are on self-isolation for COVID-19.
- They are being tested for COVID-19.
- They have an active case of COVID-19 – tested positive and are still within the mandatory self-isolation period or still have symptoms.
- They have any symptom on the expanded symptom list on the COVID visitor screening tool.
- They are children under 14 years of age (except within the end-of-life situation described above).

Visitation for Patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19

Approvals for visitation for patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 are approved by the Executive Director during regular business hours, and through the Site Command Post after hours (403-944-8181).

Entrance Management Notification Process

Please provide the names of approved visitors (for end-of-life and Designated Support Person) to the entrance management team at fmc.entrancemgmt@ahs.ca with the following details:

- Unit
- Patient name
- Approved visitor name(s)
- Date and entrance door if known.

Entrance management requires this information in order to permit these visitors onsite.