



Essential Care Partner Guidelines Women & Children Program

The health and safety of patients and care partners, as well as staff, professional staff, and community members is our utmost priority. In these unprecedented times, we must take extra precautions to prevent the risk of spread of COVID-19.

The following guidelines are in place for everyone's protection, and until further notice.

Essential Care Partners (ECP) must pass screening at Hospital entrances.

ECPs with an identified risk of exposure to COVID-19, including travel outside of Northwestern Ontario, may be permitted in the Paediatric Inpatient Unit (1B) or Paediatric Outpatient Department if:

- They are the primary care provider and there is no other suitable ECP;
- They are asymptomatic;
- They can be isolated with the child in a private room;
- They agree to remain in the room with the child at all times.

Essential Care Partner Guidelines by Department:

Labour & Delivery

- One ECP can be present before and during labour;
- ECPs are not permitted in the Operating Room for Caesarian sections.

Maternal Newborn

- One ECP is permitted for the first six hours of life only.

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)

- One ECP is permitted in a 24 hour period;
- Individuals with an identified risk of exposure to COVID-19, including travel outside of Northwestern Ontario, are not allowed to enter the NICU.

Paediatrics

- One ECP is permitted;
- ECP is only allowed to stay overnight if the patient is in a single room;
- ECPs who are staying with the patient will be subject to daily symptomatic screening.



Paediatric Outpatients

- One ECP is permitted.

Child & Adolescent Mental Health Unit

- One ECP is permitted during visiting hours only.

ECP who become COVID-19 symptomatic will be required to leave the Hospital and may not return until they have been medically cleared.

Patients and ECPs may only leave their unit for clinical purposes. You may not visit the cafeteria, Robin's Donuts or other common areas in the Hospital. Smoking is not allowed. Once an ECP leaves the Hospital, re-entry may not be permitted.

While these measures are restrictive, they are imperative for your safety and are in accordance with the recommendations of Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health. Thank you for your cooperation.

Please note that the Essential Care Partners restrictions may change without notice.

We understand that visitor restrictions are difficult, and that friends and family wish to be kept informed. To help you stay connected, telephone and virtual visitation options will be available. Patients and ECPs are also encouraged to use their personal devices to access Tbaytel's free WiFi while on site at our Hospital.

For more information, please speak to a member of your care team.