

## **Vaccinated Visitor – FAQs**

October 25, 2021

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### **What does "fully vaccinated" mean?**

Full vaccinated means that you have had two doses of a Health Canada approved vaccine with the last dose given at least 14 days prior to the date of the scheduled hospital visit.

### **What exceptions are there?**

Exceptions include:

- Those visiting patients at end-of-life
- Care partners for patients who are in labour
- People who are essential to accompany patients to appointments for participate in their delivery of care
- People with specific medical exemptions who show their identification and a dated, written document from a physician or nurse practitioner, on their letterhead that confirms the patient's name and the reason for the medical exemption.

### **I will be delivering my baby at PSFDH, can I have a person present with me?**

- Patients who are in active labour may be accompanied by a visitor regardless of their vaccination status only during the labour and deliver:
  - a) A partner can accompany the labouring patient during labour and delivery if unvaccinated. At all times, they will be required to wear additional personal protective equipment such as gown, mask, eye protection supplied by the hospital.
  - b) As soon as delivery is completed, the patient's unvaccinated support person MUST leave the premises and/or be switched with a vaccinated individual.
  - c) Skin-to-skin contact will be allowed, however, the support person must continue to wear their required personal protective equipment at all times.
  - d) A second support person (such as a doula) must be vaccinated throughout the labouring patient's stay, no exceptions.
  - e) All support persons must pass screening at the hospital entrance.

### **Are there any exemptions to being fully vaccinated?**

- There are only two recognized medical exemptions
  - I. an allergic reaction to a component of the vaccine (confirmed by an allergist or immunologist), or
  - II. a case of myocarditis or pericarditis (confirmed by a cardiologist) after a first dose of a vaccine.

The medical exemption must be provided in a written document from a physician or nurse practitioner, on their letterhead.

### **Can I just show proof of a negative test result instead?**

A negative COVID-19 test result is not enough to allow visitations and it will not be accepted as an alternative to being fully vaccinated. Studies show that people who are fully vaccinated are less likely to be infected with COVID-19 and to infect others, so visitors or essential care partners must show that they are fully vaccinated. Vaccination is an important tool to keep you and your loved one safe.

**What kind of proof do I need to provide?**

You need to provide the official receipt from the government of Ontario and photo ID.

**How do I get a copy of my vaccine receipt?**

Ensure you have your green OHIP card ready when accessing the provincial website.

1. Go to the [COVID-19 Ontario website](#).
2. Follow the prompts and complete the fields.
3. Under Vaccination receipts select "Continue" and click "Download the receipt." In the PDF, move your mouse to the top right to the down arrow to download your copy.