

Dear patients and families,

You will be aware of the increasing rates of covid-19 infection in our community and nationally. The hospice has taken many steps over the last 22 months to reduce risk, protect those under our care, their families and our staff and volunteers, whilst maintaining our vital services.

We have reviewed our visiting arrangements and do not plan to change them at present although this will be kept under close review. **In order to be able to maintain visiting, whilst keeping those under our care safe, it is vital that a range of measures continue**, and we would value all your support with this:

1) Symptoms

Any visitor with symptoms of Covid-19 must not visit the hospice and should arrange a PCR test. Please liaise with the hospice inpatient unit team who will support facilitating calls with those being cared for on the unit.



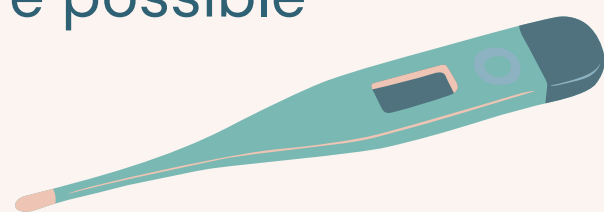
2) Positive contact

Any visitor who is a contact or lives with anyone who has covid-19 infection, must not visit the hospice. Please liaise with the hospice inpatient unit team who will support facilitating calls with those being cared for on the unit and advise on the next steps.



3) Testing

All visitors must complete a LFD test (lateral flow test) prior to each visit to the hospice and only visit if this is negative (exemption includes those with a clinical reason that makes them unable to complete, or covid-19 infection within the prior 90 days). Hospice staff will assist completion of the LFD test if needed but we would request this is complete before visiting where possible



Guidance for patient visitors: 7 steps to follow

4) All visitors must check their temperature on arrival

5) All visitors must sign in and confirm a negative LFD test (unless exempt) and their temperature on arrival

6) All visitors must wear recommended PPE throughout the visit. If anyone feels unable to do this, please liaise with the hospice inpatient unit team

7) All visitors must use hand gel or wash hands regularly whilst at the hospice



Many thanks for your help and support with this.

Dr Andrew Fletcher
Medical Director