

SUBJECT: COVID-19-Protocols for Resident Short Stay Absences	SECTION: Environment-Infection Control-Pandemic
POLICY NO: E-ICP9	RHRA-27
EFFECTIVE DATE:	LAST REVISED DATE: September 11, 2020

*As per the Ministry of Health Directive #3 (August 28, 2020) and Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility (MSAA) Reopening Retirement Homes (September 8, 2020) requirement for **education on all required protocols for short absences to be provided by the residence**, this document will be shared with all residents.*

Introduction

St. Andrew's Residence will allow residents to leave the property for short absences within the parameters outlined in this document, provided all requirements are met.

General:

- If the Residence is in a COVID-19 **outbreak**, short-stay absences are not permitted. This information will be shared with each resident as it occurs. Outbreak signage will be posted throughout the building.
- Any non-adherence to the rules set out in this document could be the basis for discontinuation of short-stay absences.

Expectations for Residents:

PLEASE NOTE: Residents who are self-isolating for 14 days under Droplet and Contact Precautions may not leave the Residence for short absences with the exception of medical appointments.

St. Andrew's Residence residents who wish to go outside of the Residence (e.g., short absences with friends/family, shopping, medical appointments, etc.) are permitted to do so.

The resident must try to give the Residence 24 hours' notice if able to do so.

The resident must sign out when leaving the Residence.

If a family member or friend wishes to book a short absence with a resident, please follow this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040449A9A72FA6F94-resident1>

The resident **must pass active screening every time they re-enter** the Residence and also **attest** that they are not experiencing any of the typical and atypical symptoms of COVID-19.

- Active screening will include the following questions;

- where the resident has been
- who the resident was with or visited while they were out.
- Reception will keep a log of this information.
- Each short absence must be limited to a **maximum of 12 hours and cannot be overnight.** (See below for overnight absences)
- The resident must adhere to the safe physical guidelines while outside of the Residence at all times.
- Hand Hygiene is to be practiced frequently while out and upon return to the residence.
- The resident must **wear a face covering/mask while outside the residence.** Cloth masks are acceptable.
 - The resident is responsible for supplying their own face covering/mask while they are on short absences.
 - The Residence may, **at its discretion**, opt to supply face covering/masks for short absences but will seek to avoid accessing the provincial pandemic stockpile.
- **Overnight absences:** A resident returning from an absence that includes an overnight stay must, upon return to the home, follow 14-days of self-isolation.
 - An overnight stay during the 14-day period will reset the 14-day time period.

References and Related Policy and Procedures:

Appendix A - Information Package for Visitors

[Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility-Reopening Retirement Homes](#)
[Ministry of Health Directive # 3-August 28, 2020](#)

St. Andrew's Residence, Chatham

Operations Manual

[Ref. Infection Prevention and Control Section]

[Ref. E-ICP3 COVID-19]

[Ref. E-ICP4 Outbreak protocol for COVID-19]

[Ref. E-ICP5-Resident Transfer To/From Hospital During a Pandemic]

Date	Revision	Effective
June 16, 2020	New Policy	June 18, 2020
July 14, 2020	Changed notice required from 48 to 24. Added a link for family and friends to book short absences. Added information for overnight visits. Updated MSAA link to the new document.	July 16, 2020
July 24, 2020	Update link to the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility- Reopening Retirement Homes, added note to define self- isolating resident and allowed absences.	July 24, 2020
Sept. 11, 2020	Renumbered, was E-ICP10. Changed must give 24 hours' notice to "must try to give 24 hours' notice if able to do so. Asking the resident where they have been and who they were with or visited to the screening questions when the resident returns. Update links.	Sept. 11, 2020

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