# Visiting & Infection Control

- If you are feeling unwell or have been in recent contact with someone who was feeling unwell, please do not visit.
- Visitors are required to use the alcohol-based hand sanitizer:
  - On entry and exit to the hospital,
  - on entry and exit to the unit and,
  - upon entry and exit to the patient's room
- Visitors play an important role in hospital infection control practices.
  Please ask staff if they have washed their hands.
- During a declared outbreak or other hospital emergency, visiting hours may be restricted or cancelled.

## **Quiet Hours**

To promote a restful environment for all patients and residents, quite hours are in effect between 10 pm and 7 am.

During this time, everyone is requested to speak in hushed tones, dim overhead lights and silence electronic devices.

# Reviewing Important Information

To ensure the safety of our patients, families and staff we ask that you review the falls prevention, hand hygiene and pressure injury brochures provided in your admission package.

### **Medication Administration**

To further enhance the safety of our patients we ask that visitors, patients and staff refrain from communicating with the nurse during medication administration to ensure complete accuracy. Thank you for your understanding

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Renowned for compassionate care, St. Joseph's is one of the best academic health care organizations in Canada dedicated to helping people live to their fullest by minimizing the effects of injury, disease and disability through excellence in care, teaching and research.

# Welcome to Palliative Care



## **Parkwood Institute**

550 Wellington Road London, Ontario 519 646-6100 ext. 42504

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#### Who we are

Palliative Care provides physical, psychological, emotional, spiritual and practical support to individuals and their loved ones, who are living with or dying from a progressive, life limiting illness.

Palliative Care helps make a difficult life passage both manageable and meaningful. The focus of palliative care is neither to hasten nor postpone death, but rather to make the last stages of life comfortable and peaceful for patients and caregivers. Quality of life, family wellness, community involvement and personal dignity are all part of the palliative care's compassionate and progressive vision.

#### A TEAM APPROACH

Our Palliative Care team will work with our patients and families to develop end of life goals.

Our team consists of:

- Palliative Care doctors and nurses
- Social workers
- Chaplains
- Music therapist
- Pharmacists
- Physiotherapist
- Occupational therapist
- Volunteers

# **During Your Stay**

Because space is very limited, we suggest packing only what each individual needs upon admission, as listed below:

- At least five changes of loose-fitting/ comfortable seasonal clothing
- Comfortable pajamas and a pair of slippers.
- Toiletries including deodorant, toothbrush/toothpaste, razor/shaving cream, body wash, comb/brush
- Any hearing aids and/or eyeglasses.

#### WHAT TO LEAVE AT HOME

Parkwood Institute is not responsible for lost or stolen valuables. Patients are encouraged to leave their valuable items at home, or with family/friends for safe keeping.

Patients/families are asked to refrain from bringing in or using electrical fans in patient rooms. External fans reduce the equalization of our facility's HVAC system which assists in lowering potential infection control issues. Thank you for your understanding.

# **Discharge Planning**

If a patient is considered stable and no longer requires the specialized care of the Palliative Care Unit, discharge plans will be discussed.

Discharge destinations may include home, a retirement home, or long-term care. A social worker will be in contact within the first month or two if the patient requires an alternative level of care and meets the below discharge criteria:

#### **DISCHARGE GUIDELINES:**

- The needs of the patient have stabilized, and death is not imminent
- The patient's needs can effectively be met within the community
- The patient requires acute care interventions and would be more appropriately cared for within an acute care facility

