

Droplet Precautions¹ Requirements for New Admissions or Returning Residents/Tenants

Please liaise with your Access Care and Transitions Coordinator to discuss the transition for admission and potential internal movement of residents/tenants at your site

Application:

- All criteria must be met to comply with FH Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) standards for appropriate droplet precautions
- If single room is not available sites are to consider temporarily moving other residents/tenants to accommodate a resident/tenant requiring 14 days of droplet precautions.
- 4 bed rooms may need to be avoided for new/returning admissions if requirements of 2 meters physical distancing plus physical partitions cannot be met
- The following requirements can apply to a 2 bed shared room

Requirements:

1. Physical Distancing

- Physical layout of room enforces a minimum of two meters of safe physical distance between residents/tenants
- Residents/tenants are able to safely adhere to two meters of physical distancing eg: no active behaviors in which resident/tenant may wander into space of other resident

2. Respiratory Hygiene/Etiquette

- Resident/tenant can adhere to performing respiratory hygiene (e.g., coughing into their elbow, using tissues, disposing tissues into a proper waste bin, performing hand hygiene immediately after) where physically and cognitively feasible.

3. Engineering Controls

- If single room is not available, use physical partitions (privacy curtains or physical partitions) plus 2 meter physical distancing. Non-porous/wipe-able partitions are preferred, however privacy curtains are acceptable alternatives.
- Ensure properly maintained building ventilation/air-flow systems for each resident/tenant room.
- Dedicated hand hygiene sinks are preferred, liquid soap dispensers, paper towel holders, hand sanitizer dispensers and no-touch waste bins plus related supplies, should be readily available in the room.
- Hand sanitizer dispensers should be available in hallways at the entry to room.
- Use clear signage at entrance to room eg: droplet precautions, instructions for donning and doffing of PPE and easily accessible PPE supplies in a self contained cabinet.

¹ Droplet Precautions: Droplet Precautions includes 14 days isolation. See Droplet Precautions Standard Operating Procedure and Clinical Practice Guidelines

[http://fhpulse/quality_and_patient_safety/infection_control/novel_coronavirus/FH%20COVID-19%20Droplet%20Precautions%20\[SOP\].pdf](http://fhpulse/quality_and_patient_safety/infection_control/novel_coronavirus/FH%20COVID-19%20Droplet%20Precautions%20[SOP].pdf)

- Dedicate private washroom or a commode chair to the admitted resident/tenant.

4. Equipment

- Ensure dedicated equipment per resident/tenant. The following equipment should not be shared (eg: commode, slings, BP cuffs, stethoscope), unless cleaned & disinfected or laundered between residents/tenants.
- If equipment such as portable lift/sit-to-stand lifts is shared clear instructions (SOPs) of how to clean and disinfect between resident/tenant use must be clearly visible and labelled (dirty/clean)

5. Supporting Residents/Tenants with Dementia

- Clients who are unable to follow directions to isolate in their room, or who are on the move from room to room during a COVID-19 pandemic, will present a challenge to care providers. Efforts to contain the spreading of germs will require creative approaches and patience. It is paramount that we continue to adopt a least restrictive approach by using strategies that might mitigate risks to ensure the safety and well-being for all.
- Review individual's care plan and apply strategies to the greatest extent possible.
- For support to overcome challenges in developing a plan of care, contact your Access, Care & Transitions (ACT) coordinator.

Please see the COVID-19 resource toolkit for links to the respiratory etiquette poster, enhanced cleaning guidelines for equipment and supporting resident/tenants with dementia during isolation.
https://www.fraserhealth.ca/-/media/Project/FraserHealth/FraserHealth/Health-Professionals/Clinical-resources/COVID19/LTC_AL_IL-COVID-binder_May28v2.pdf

Questions:

For questions related to admission/transfer and internal movement of current residents/tenants

Please contact your Access Care and Transitions Coordinator

Via email FHAAccessCareandTransitionsCoordinators@fraserhealth.ca or phone 604-519-8500

For questions related to droplet precaution requirements

Please contact your local FH Infection Prevention and Control Consultant

FHA IPC Community Specialists FHAIPCCommunitySpecialists@fraserhealth.ca

IPC geographic coverage:

South	Shelly Garcha	778-242-4067
North	Chris Okeahialam	236-232-2236
East	Iona Brierton-Joseph	604-369-5194