

Dec 2, 2020

Designated Caregiver (DCG)

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is Northwood only allowing 1 Designated Caregiver to visit?

As directed by NS Public Health, December 1, 2020, the Designated Caregiver program will be reduced to only one person per resident. Northwood follows all Public Health directives.

If there is only one DCG assigned for a resident, you do not need to contact us.

The resident or assigned Substitute Decision Maker must contact us to confirm the appointed DCG.

If there is more than one DCG assigned, the resident or assigned Substitute Decision Maker must contact us to confirm the appointed DCG.

Once the resident or SDM has made a decision, please contact us by calling 902-454-4408 (option 1) for Halifax and 902-407-8520 for Bedford with your name, the resident's name, and the name of the DCG that will continue.

Do I need a Covid-19 test before I visit my loved one?

No. You can visit prior to getting a Covid-19 test provided you pass the screening process. We are offering testing for all staff and Designated Caregivers to be completed every two weeks. We ask that all DCGs participate in the testing every two weeks for Covid-19 to protect your loved one.

Where do I get the Covid-19 test?

Northwood is providing Covid-19 testing clinics at the Halifax Campus on the ground floor of the Manor Building (2630 Gottingen ST.) This takes place in the Adult Day room.

Testing at the Bedford Campus will begin at a later date. Please check the website frequently for updates. www.northwood.care

Where can I find the schedule for the Covid-19 test clinics at Northwood?

There are several places to find the schedule.

- An updated schedule will be emailed to DCGs every 2 weeks.
- It is posted on the screen on the login iPad at either campus.

When will Bedford start testing the Designated Caregivers?

We are working with the Department of Health and Nova Scotia Health to start testing in Bedford in the next three weeks.

Can I change who the Designated Caregiver is?

At this time, we are asking that the DCG remain consistent to reduce the potential exposure to the residents. Should a DCG become unable to participate in the program, please contact the social work department to discuss options.

Do I need a flu shot before I come to visit?

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As a DCG, it is strongly recommended that you have a flu shot as influenza also has a significant impact on residents. Having both Covid-19 and Influenza in a community could be devastating especially for seniors. Northwood, working with our partners, can make the vaccine available for DCGs who have not been able to access the vaccine in the community. Please contact us by calling 902-454-4408 (option 1) for Halifax and 902-407-8520 for Bedford with your name, resident's name and you're your contact info.

Am I able to visit if my loved one is on precautions?

If a resident is on precautions, we will postpone the DCG program for that resident until testing results are known. If the results return negative the program will resume however if the results are positive, we will consult with Public Health about resuming the program.