

18 February 2022

Dear Doctors & Staff,

## Re – Update to Visitor Restrictions effective Monday 21 February 2022

From Monday 21 February 2022, Prince of Wales Private Hospital will begin to allow approved visitors back to site, based on compassionate care reasons and a risk assessment. <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/screening-procedure-nsw-health-facilities.aspx>

Compassionate care reasons are:

- The patient is at end-of-life
- The patient is ill with a life-threatening condition or diagnosis
- It is beneficial for the patient's emotional or physical wellbeing, including for women who are giving birth
- The patient has a mental illness, and their designated Carer/Principal Care Provider is determined under the MH Act
- The patient is living with dementia or a cognitive impairment and their visitor is the person responsible or person to contact
- They are required to provide an informal language service
- They are a carer of a patient with a disability
- They are accompanying someone to the emergency department or outpatient clinic
- They are supporting the patient's care upon leaving hospital
- The patient is under 16 and they are the patient's parent or guardian

Approved visitors must:

- Have had 2 doses of a recognised COVID-19 vaccine (unless they have a medical exemption), and provide evidence when checking in
- Have not tested positive to COVID-19 within the last 7 days
- Not be a high risk contact of someone who has COVID-19 in the previous 14 days
- Not have COVID-19 symptoms
- Not have arrived from overseas in the past 7 days
- If under 12 years of age, have had at least 1 dose of a recognised COVID-19 vaccine

### Day of Surgery Services

No visitors. Will remain drop off and pick up only.

### General Surgical Wards

Two (2) fully vaccinated visitors per day, based on compassionate visiting reasons – these requests will be risk assessed prior to approval for visiting. Visiting hours between 4pm-6pm.

Paediatric patients are still allowed only one parent to stay with them during their admission. Parents are able to swap over during admission if required and have a 10minute cross over.

### Maternity & Birthing Unit

Partner/support person to attend birth. Additional support person for the birth will be permitted based on a risk assessment. One partner/support person and ONE other fully vaccinated nominated visitor allowed on post-natal ward between 4pm-6pm. Partners/support persons will be able to come and go as required. If partner/support persons leave the Hospital they are still required to have a RAT on return to the hospital (regardless of vaccination status). Siblings under 12 years are not permitted.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

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### Special Care Nursery

Two (2) parents are able to visit Special Care Nursery. Social distancing requirements will determine if both parents are able to visit at the same time, or if they need to change over.

Parents coming in to Special Care Nursery once the mother is discharged, are still required to have a RAT on arrival to the hospital.

### ICU

Two (2) fully vaccinated visitors. Visiting hours between 10am-1pm and 3pm-8pm. This is in line with the shared PoW ICU hours and visitor exemptions.

### Level 7 Consulting Suites

Consulting Suites to determine if they are allowing visitors to come with patients to their appointments. Visitors should be limited to 1 per patient if allowed. Patients will need to clarify this with the suite staff.

Kind regards,

**Robert Cusack**