

Issued by the AHS Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC); for more information, contact: AHS.ECC@ahs.ca

Date: April 24, 2020

To: ZEOCs and Acute Care Hospitals

From: AHS ECC Director

RE: Clarification: Acute Care Guidance for Parents/Guardians Accompanying Children (updated based on legal review defining 'admit' as accompany)

Further to the [CMOH exemption](#) for quarantined and isolated persons who have minor children that require medical care, the AHS ECC is providing the following clarification regarding circumstances where a quarantined or isolated parent or guardian may transport, accompany or visit a minor child:

1. A quarantined or isolated parent or guardian may:
 - Transport their child to a hospital or medical facility so that the child may receive emergency care or be admitted for medical care.
 - Visit their child in hospital or medical facility only if pre-arranged and permitted by the hospital or facility.
2. If the child is admitted and the **asymptomatic** quarantined or isolated parent/guardian wishes to accompany the child, the parent/guardian must wear a mask or face covering and observe social distancing when traveling to and from the hospital or medical facility.
3. If the child is admitted and the **symptomatic** parent/guardian wishes to accompany the child, the parent/guardian must remain in isolation in the patient (child's) room together until the child is discharged. If the parent requires hospitalization due to their symptoms then their admission must occur in an adult hospital.
4. In following the above exemptions, the parent/guardian must adhere to the following requirements:
 - The parent/guardian must wear a mask or face covering and observe social distancing when traveling to and from the hospital or medical facility.
 - The parent/guardian should travel directly to and from their quarantine or isolation premises to the hospital or medical facility with no stops in between.
 - When calling 911 and/or arriving at the facility, the parent/guardian must advise the hospital, or medical facility as the case may be that they and/or their minor children are in quarantine or isolation.
 - When on the premises, the parent/guardian must follow all directions of the medical staff at the hospital or other medical facility.

Please note that the CMOH exemption specifies that the site may provide further directions and restrictions to protect patients, staff and the public.