

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL COVID-19 COMMITTEE

### Bulletin #217 – COVID-19 – ID-IPC Update Inpatient Passes/Leave of Absences During COVID-19 Pandemic All Phases

Dec. 7, 2022

As the COVID-19 virus continues to evolve, the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) response is adapting and when feasible protocols are being de-escalated in a practical manner with a focus on patient and health care worker safety.

#### **Celebrating and Staying Safe During the Holiday Season**

With the holiday season right around the corner, we are ready to spend quality time with our family and friends. In an effort to meet the needs of our patients, the [Inpatient Passes/Leave of Absences During COVID-19 Pandemic All Phases](#) document has been revised.

It is acknowledged that the COVID-19 pandemic is not over, and that there is a significant increase in respiratory virus illnesses in our communities. However the guideline provides a safe and consistent approach to facilitate inpatient passes/leave of absences, while limiting the potential risk of exposure to respiratory virus infections.

We can all do our part to stay safe and protect the health of our family, friends and patients during the holiday season. Please refer to the World Health Organization's [Influenza and COVID-19: Five tips for a safer winter](#).

Please visit the [IPC Resources COVID-19 Skyline page](#) for COVID-19 information.