

Leamington Mennonite Home
Long Term Care

**INFECTION CONTROL
POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

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| CATEGORY: Miscellaneous Cleaning | SUBJECT: Humidifiers – Personal | SECTION: K POLICY: 2 |
| DATE: July 12, 2022 | Administrator's Signature: _____ <i>J. M.</i> | |
| REVISION DATES: February 2023, November 2023 | IPAC Lead's Signature: _____ <i>L. Coppola, R.N.</i> | |

HUMIDIFIERS – PERSONAL

POLICY:

Personal humidifier use is not permitted at the Leamington Mennonite Home as it may provide an ideal environment for bacteria growth such as Legionella, which can lead to the development of Legionnaires' Disease. Vulnerable persons at risk include elderly people and others with underlying medical conditions that may have weakened immune systems.

PROCEDURE:

The DNPC will:

- 1) Inform residents, staff, and families of the policy on the use of personal humidifiers.
- 2) Inform residents, staff, and families of alternative solutions to provide moisture such as:
 - Providing plants in the room
 - Vase of flowers or decorative stones
- 3) Educate regarding the risk of using personal humidifiers in the Home.

All staff, when notified of any requests for personal humidifiers, will:

- 1) Advise their immediate supervisor so that communication may occur with the resident or family member to explain the safety risks.