

Restricted Visitor Guidelines – One Visitor Limit (updated June 11, 2020)

Purpose: The purpose of these guidelines is to clarify our process for restricting general visitation during the COVID-19 pandemic.

For patients who are minors or who are unable to make their own decisions, permission for visits will be determined by their representatives and/or their care teams.

All visitors will be screened upon arrival, and will be required to wear a mask (either their own, or one provided by MCH&HS). Only visits from **one healthy adult per patient** will be allowed, except where otherwise indicated. Visitors that screen positive will be asked to come back another day when asymptomatic.

All visitors are restricted to the patient room or designated patient care area.

Guidelines for	Visits to Patients
Antepartum, Labor/Delivery, Postpartum Patients	One healthy adult visitor/labor partner at a time (minors may be allowed at discretion of care team)
Postpartum Infants	Up to two parents/guardians at a time
Pediatric/Minor Patients	Up to two parents/guardians at a time
Patients receiving End of Life care	One or more healthy adult visitors (minors may be allowed at discretion of care team)
All patients not otherwise listed	One healthy adult visitor
Clinic	One healthy adult and/or minors residing in the same household
Visits by more than one person at a time and visits by minors to be determined on a case-by-case Basis (if not addressed above) If there are questions, please contact the Administrator on Call.	
Limitations & Restrictions to Visits	
Circumstances that can lead to visiting restrictions or limitations (per Patient Visitation Right policy): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Patient prefers rest and/or no visits ○ Certain clinical interventions where a sterile field is needed, or other logistical/safety considerations (for example, aerosol generating procedures; bedside scans) ○ Disruptive, violent or threatening behaviors of any kind ○ Inpatient behavioral health or substance abuse protocols ○ Legal restrictions (for example, court orders) ○ Concerns for privacy, safety and confidentiality of other patients, visitors and staff In the best interest for safety of our patients, visitors, staff and others, there may be circumstances which will require alterations to these guidelines. For additional guidance, see the "Patient Visitation Rights" policy.	
Other Considerations when Managing the Presence of Visitors in Patient Rooms	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors need to be actively screened upon arrival for fever and signs of COVID-19, and then should be provided with a mask and any additional PPE needed. • They may wear their own cloth mask or can be provided with a source control mask if they do not already have one. • If a patient is in an isolation room, they will be provided with a procedural mask and any other necessary PPE, and assisted by staff on the unit. • For Isolation Visitors, staff is responsible to provide education about proper PPE donning and doffing and isolation precautions to a visitor in isolation at each visit. • Visitors are expected to follow infection control procedures while in our facilities. Visitors not following procedures can be asked to leave the facility. 	

- There should be **no limitations on time frames of visits to patients** unless visits are impeding the patient's treatment or the treatment of other patients, the visitor is being disruptive, or other reasons as outlined in the Patient Visitation Rights policy are identified.
- Most patients should generally have visits from only one person at a time (see chart for situations where more than one visitor should always be accommodated).
 - If multiple people want to visit a patient, they should be asked to coordinate visits so COVID-19 exposure risks and the use of PPE is minimized as much as possible.
 - There can be flexibility with this application — do not use this policy to overly-restrict visits to patients who want or need additional support.
- Visits are generally not restricted for patients in isolation rooms (including patients who have known or suspected COVID-19).
 - In these cases, visitors will be given a procedural mask (not an N-95 mask) and other PPE as appropriate, and will be provided with infection control education and assistance.
 - Visitors in isolation rooms should be asked not to leave the rooms during their stay.
- If a patient is undergoing an aerosolizing procedure, request that the support person leave the room. However, when this is not possible (for example, during the 2nd stage of labor or during compassionate extubation when the visitor(s) request to be present) assure visitors have the appropriate PPE.
- Any case-specific needs to restrict or limit visits to a particular patient should follow the "Patient Visitation Rights" policy.

Visitor Screening Process (also see the "**Greeter Screening Flow(1 Visitor)**" flow sheet on COVID-19 webpage)

- All visitors will be screened upon entry into a facility (and daily, if they are present for more than 24 hours).
 - If visitor stays overnight, he/she should be re-screened for fever and symptoms on the unit at the start of the day shift.
- All visitors will need to wear a mask inside the facility.
 - If visitors do not have their own mask, one will be provided to them.
 - Visits into isolation rooms may require additional PPE (including specific masks) as indicated.

If there are questions on how to apply these guideline ,
please contact your Administrator on Call
and/or the Infection Preventionist.