

**Clinical Effectiveness
Acute Care Inpatient Visitation Guidelines
- COVID-19 Pandemic Respiratory Virus**

CW OCE 0021

Purpose

To prevent the spread of microorganisms in order to protect patients, visitors and healthcare workers. This policy is for use during the COVID-19 pandemic in conjunction with facility-based visitation policies.

Supplies & Equipment

- A.** Alcohol Sanitizer
- B.** Waste Receptacles
- C.** Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): gloves, disposable gown, face mask

Policy

Visitor restrictions support infection prevention and keep our patients, caregivers, and facilities safe during a national pandemic precaution period. Restrictions apply to acute care, outpatient clinic and ambulatory settings.

A. Access Point Monitoring/ Visitor Restriction

1. Visual Alerts: Place signage at all entrances and in strategic locations providing instruction on hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette. Post signage at all entrances to communicate to visitors:
 - Visitors are required to wear a face mask while inside the hospital, including when within the room of the patient being visited.
 - Visitors who refuse to wear a face mask will be asked to leave the hospital.

Only AdventHealth approved signage should be utilized. (refer to [Brand Center](#))

2. Ensure sanitary supplies (tissues, waste receptacles, alcohol-based hand sanitizer) are available at all entry points at both acute care and ambulatory locations.
3. Face masks should be maintained behind the reception desks or in another secure location approved by campus leadership. When distributing face masks to visitors, apprise them of the requirement to wear the facemask.
4. Staff/volunteers assigned to access point monitoring

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should wear a surgical mask if they are not separated from potentially infectious people by a physical barrier (i.e., glass or plastic barrier).

5. Access will be restricted to employees, providers and visitors as outlined in this policy.
 - i. If the person is a patient seeking medical treatment or with a scheduled appointment, they will be screened following the patient screening process and allowed to enter the facility.
6. Approved visitors must wear appropriate Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) as indicated in the PPE Policy. Visitors visiting COVID-19 positive or PUI patients must wear full PPE, to include AdventHealth provided N95 respirator. Fit testing of N95 for visitors is not required.
7. Facilities to maintain a log of visitors.
8. Company patient visit recommendations are as follows: (Facilities may, at their discretion, based on community prevalence and operational readiness, determine stricter visitation policies.)
 - i. **All** visitors must stay with the patient and exit the facility directly after visiting.
 - ii. COVID-19 positive or PUI patients may have one (1) visitor per day for 2 hours. The facility will provide the visitor education regarding appropriate PPE use, hand hygiene, limiting surfaces touched, social distancing, and movement within the facility.
 - a. Visitor must stay with patient and exit the facility directly after visiting.
 - iii. Patients who are non-PUI and non-COVID-19 positive may have two (2) visitors per day.
 - iv. Patients under the age of 18, regardless of their COVID-19 status, may be accompanied by two (2) adult visitors at a time per day.
 - v. Obstetric patient:
 - COVID-19 negative may be accompanied by two (2) adult visitors

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per day. The use of a Doula will count as one (1) visitor.

- Asymptomatic COVID-19 positive, may be accompanied by two (2) adult visitors per day. The use of a Doula will count as one (1) visitor.
- Symptomatic COVID-19 positive Obstetric patients may have one (1) visitor.

vi. Cesarean Delivery: support person of COVID-19 patient cannot be in attendance in the Operating Room suite.

vii. Patients at end of life, regardless of COVID-19 status, may have two (2) visitors at a time, with a maximum of six (6) visitors per day.

Approved By:

Terry D. Shaw, President/CEO

Date

Dates:

Origination Date: 4/7/2020

Reviewed and Revised Date: 10/6/2020

OR

Reviewed and Affirmed Date:

References:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Collection and Submission of Postmortem Specimens from Deceased Persons with Known or Suspected COVID-19, March 2020

AdventHealth

Company-Wide

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<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-postmortem-specimens.html>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Environmental Infection Control Guidelines.

<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/environmental/appendix/air.html>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Frequently Asked Questions. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html#anchor_1584390222777