



**Subject: Visitation Guidelines during Covid-19 Pandemic**

**Purpose: To provide guidelines for visitors during the Covid-19 pandemic.**

**Policy:** The facility will be open for visitors but require screening for symptoms and exposure to Covid-19.

- The safest place to visit is outside. Visitors must wear a mask during indoor visitation for the entire duration regardless of vaccination status of either resident or visitor. Residents have the right to refuse visitors.
- Visitors must adhere to the core principle of Infection Control.
- All visitors including vendors must enter through the front door, where screening will occur.
- Visitors and vendors are encouraged to not visit if they are not feeling well and notify the facility if they develop symptoms 14 days of a visit in the building.
- **Screening for everyone upon entry to the facility;** screened for symptoms of Covid-19, temperature screen and documented results on the visitation log. Any visitor with a temp of 100 degrees or greater or anyone with symptoms of Covid-19 will must have their visit rescheduled to a future date.
- Visitors may visit residents in their rooms or other designated areas.
- The recommended hours for visitation are 11:00 am - 7:00 pm.
- Children ages 2 and above are also required to always wear a mask.
- Residents should wear a mask for the entire duration of the visit.
- Food is not permitted to be shared during visitation. All food brought in for the residents should be left with the nurse on duty.
- In semi-private rooms, curtains should be drawn to ensure privacy to the roommate.
- Recreation room and outside visitation are available and will require prior scheduling with the recreation team.
- Visits are subject to observation by a staff member to ensure principles of core infection control are adhered to.
- Visitors are encouraged to go directly to the designated visitation area and limit movement in the facility; visitors are asked not to walk around the halls.
- Hand hygiene: alcohol based hand sanitizers are available for visitors to clean hands upon entering and leaving visit.
- Personal protection equipment (PPE) as needed, depending on community transmission levels and facility cases.
- Facemasks must be worn during all indoor visitation by visitors, vendors and residents.
- Social distancing is required during visits of at least 6 feet from one another.
- Information board to include current PPE protocol at entrance of building near Infection Control Office.



- **Cleaning and disinfecting high frequency touched surfaces in the facility:** Facility approved disinfectants will be used on a regular cleaning schedule for equipment, frequently touched areas, common rooms and resident rooms.
- **Co-horting of residents:** All residents may have visitors, including residents under isolation and quarantine.
- Visit will adhere to the core principles of infection prevention.
- Vendors are allowed with prior notification.

**Per the federal government:** While it is safer for visitors not to enter the facility during an outbreak investigation, visitors must still be allowed in the facility. Visitors should be made aware of the potential risk of visiting during an outbreak investigation and adhere to the core principles of infection prevention.

If residents or their representatives would like to have a visit during an outbreak investigation, they should wear a face mask during the visit, regardless of vaccination status and visits should ideally occur in the resident's room.

Facilities may contact their local health authorities for guidance or direction on how to structure their visitation to reduce the risk of Covid-19 transmission during an outbreak investigation.