

Camden Clark Medical Center

Policy and/or Procedure

Title: COVID-19 Visitor Policy

Effective Date: 06/20/2022

Department: Guest Relations

SCOPE: Camden Clark Medical Center

PURPOSE To provide guidance related to patient visitation

POLICY: GENERAL GUIDELINES

I. General Visitation Guidelines (Applicable to All)

- A. This policy applies to the visitation of patients, not general visitation to the hospital (e.g., Vendors, volunteers, other administrative activities).
 - 1. Outside vendors considered essential to patient care (Chaplains at End of Life, LTACH/nursing home screeners, etc.) are not included as visitors.
 - 2. Volunteers, considered essential to patient care operations, are permitted in the hospital once they have undergone screening and PPE training (hospital specific guidelines should be followed). Essential volunteer positions include any position that provides direct support to patients and visitors or supports functions essential to operations.
- B. Visitors must be masked at all times. Children over the age of 2 must be masked. Visitors experiencing COVID-19 symptoms should not enter the facility.
- C. Visitors must enter through a designated entrance at each clinical site.
- D. Visitors must obtain, wear and return the specific visitor badge upon entering and exiting the building.
- E. Physical distancing requirements to be maintained.
- F. For COVID-19 positive infectious patients and COVID-19 Persons Under Investigation, visitation to be permitted and not less than once every five (5) days pursuant to WV House Bill 2368, Mylissa Smith's Law.
- G. For patients under the End-of-Life guidelines, visitation is permitted whenever requested pursuant to WV House Bill 2368, Mylissa Smith's Law.
- H. Inpatient visitors must remain in patient room and limit travel to common areas (other than going to restroom and café for take-out).
- I. Visitors accompanying patients in Ambulatory/Outpatient Clinics, Procedural, or Ancillary sites must stay in room or designated exam waiting area or may be asked to wait in vehicle to maintain distancing parameters.
- J. Employees are to adhere to the visitation guidelines and not engage in casual visiting while in the employee role.
- K. **Staff may request visitor not to be present in areas with limited space.**
- L. **Local epidemiologic and supply factors can override this policy at anytime.**

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ADULT GUIDELINES

- II. Adult Patient Visitor Exception Considerations include but are not limited to the following: (Approval per Unit Manager/House Supervisor after hours)**
- A. Deaf/Blind Patients
 - B. Limited/impaired Mental Capacity (such as Dementia, Autism, Severe Cognitive Delays/Impairments)
 - C. Significant Mobility Limitations
 - D. Critical Conversations (e.g., Goals of Care, New significant diagnoses with patient-specific concerns)
 - E. Significant change in clinical condition or increased level of care
 - F. Prior to or after significant procedural/clinical events (requiring sedation)
 - G. Specific discharge teaching or instructions
 - H. **End of Life**
 - 1. If the patient's death is imminent or in comfort care, visitation shall be allowed upon request and at any frequency.
- III. Adult Inpatient Visitation (Visitors must be at least 14 years of age)**
- A. **Two (2) visitors are permitted for 60 minutes at the time of presentation/admission when admission occurs outside regular visitation hours.**
 - i. Bedside Nurse will coordinate admission assessments with healthcare surrogate at bedside.
 - B. **Two (2) visitors are permitted at time of discharge** to receive discharge teaching or instructions.
 - C. **Two (2) visitors at a time from 8:00 a.m.- 8:00 p.m.**
 - i. Visitors must obtain, wear and return the specific visitor badge upon entering and exiting the building. Visitors must remain in patient room and limit travel to common areas (other than going to restroom and café for take-out).
 - ii. No overnight visitation allowed.
 - iii. Exception guidelines will remain in place at other times.
- IV. Adult Outpatient Procedural (Same Day Care/Cath Lab)**
- A. **One (1) visitor may accompany patient for same day care/cath lab procedures (except for patients having pain procedures) Two (2) visitors may accompany pediatric and obstetric patients.**
 - B. Visitor may accompany patient in waiting area and pre-procedural area, and if

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admitted, to the inpatient room. Visitors accompanying SDC/Cath Lab patients admitted prior to scheduled visitation at 8:00 a.m. will be permitted to remain in the room.

V. Outpatient Clinics/Physician Offices

- A. **One (1) visitor is permitted with each patient visit**
- B. **Two (2) visitors may accompany pediatric and obstetric patients.**
Once the patient is taken to the “clinical area,” then the visitor must either accompany the patient to and remain in the room, or leave the building until called back.

VI. Adult Outpatient Diagnostics

- A. One (1) visitor with patient if space allows for physical distancing. Two (2) visitors per patient for pediatric and obstetric patients.

PEDIATRIC GUIDELINES

VII. Pediatric Patient Visitor Exceptions include but are not limited to:

- A. Deaf/Blind Patients
- B. Limited/impaired Mental Capacity (such as Autism, Severe Cognitive Delays/Impairments)
- C. Significant Mobility Limitations
- D. Critical Conversations (e.g., End of Life, New significant diagnoses with patient-specific concerns)
- E. Significant change in clinical condition or increased level of care
- F. Prior to or after significant procedural/clinical events (requiring sedation)

VIII. Pediatric Inpatient Units

- A. **Two (2) approved visitors at a time for pediatric patients.**
- B. Visitation is 24 hours/day.
- C. COVID-19 + or Person under Investigation (PUI) are allowed two (2) approved visitors in room at all times including overnight for pediatric inpatients. The visitors must be masked at all times, meals will be provided.

IX. Pediatric Outpatient Clinics/Physician Offices

- A. **Two (2) visitors permitted with each patient visit.**

X. Pediatric Outpatient Diagnostics

- A. **Two (2) visitors permitted with each patient visit.**

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XI. Obstetrics/Mom and Baby

- A. Visitation Permitted: **Two (2) visitors will be allowed at a time from 8:00 am - 8:00 pm (this includes the support person).**
- B. **Overnight visitation limited to One (1) adult due to space constraints.**
- C. **Siblings under the age of 14 may visit but must be accompanied by an adult.**

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT GUIDELINES

XII. Emergency Department”

- A. Two (2) visitors will be allowed per patient at a time.
- B. During times of high volume when triage is instituted:
 - 1. Visitors may be required to wait in the vehicle unless the patient requires the visitor to assist with maintaining safety (e.g. deaf/blind patients, low mental capacity significant mobility limitations). Visitor will be notified when patient is assigned to a room and be permitted to join the patient at that time.
 - 2. No visitors under the age of 14 permitted.
 - Exceptions will be allowed for end of life care or any other situation deemed appropriate by the medical/nursing staff.
 - All visitors will be required to wear a mask while in the building.
 - All visitors will be required to stay in the patient’s room.

REFERENCES: Visitation, Building Entrance, and Screening Guidelines During the COVID-19 Pandemic

CROSS REFERENCES:

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