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.
   B. Staff may request visitor not to be present in areas with limited space, in semi-private rooms, and to meet patient needs for rest and healing.
   C. Local epidemiologic and supply factors can override this policy at any time.
   D. Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis.
   E. Any additional posted visitation guidelines are to be followed.

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 is nearing end of life 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 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. No overnight visitation allowed.

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 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.

VI. **Adult Outpatient Diagnostics**
   A. One (1) visitor with patient. 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.

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.

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.
   D. For postpartum patients, a family centered approach to visitation is followed, allowing for more than 2 visitors at a time.

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT GUIDELINES

XII. Emergency Department
   A. Two (2) visitors will be allowed per patient at a time.
   B. No visitors under the age of 14 permitted.

XIII: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UNIT GUIDELINES BHU
   A. Refer to Patient Visitor Policy

REFERENCES:

CROSS REFERENCES: Patient Visitor