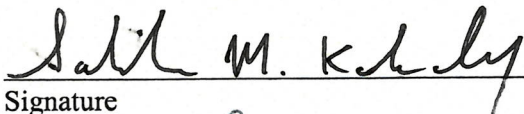



Swedish Hospital

Part of  NorthShore

Department 01 Administration
Cost Center 951
Policy 08.01 Patient Visitation COVID-19

Submitted by: Joshua Langellier, Director of Public Safety

Approved by:  Chair, Safety Committee 6/10/21
Signature Title Date
 Chief Nursing Officer 6/10/21
Signature Title Date

Effective Date: December 2020 Revised: 2/21, 3/21, 6/21

Reviewed: _____

POLICY

This policy outlines temporary procedures for restricting visitation during the COVID-19 pandemic.

PROCEDURE

1. Inpatient areas

- a. Up to two visitors are allowed into the inpatient area, the visitors may change but room capacity cannot exceed two visitors per patient. Please see section 1c and 1d of this document regarding *Circumstances Warranting Exceptions by the Care Team*. Stable COVID-19 positive or suspected positive patients are not allowed visitors.
 - For the safety of visitors under the age of 18, entry will be restricted unless situation is assessed by nursing staff and an exception request is approved. Any visitor under the age of 18 is considered an unsupervised minor and nursing staff will be alerted.
 - Visitation hours are between the hours of 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM seven days a week.
 - Visitors are screened at the Galter Medical Pavilion (GMP) or Anderson Pavilion (AP) lobbies.
 - When the visitor completes the lobby screening they are issued a visitor pass with the patient's unit on it.
 - Visitor will be provided a hospital-approved surgical mask.
 - Visitors are required to wear a mask for the entirety of the visit.
 - The visitor is instructed to check in at the nurse's station when arriving on the unit.
 - There is a maximum of two visitors per patient within semi-private rooms
 - All visitors are informed of the risk of visitation and must wear a mask for the entirety of the visit.
- b. The Unit's nursing staff insures that there are only two visitors with the patient at any given time.
 - If there are more than two visitors for the patient, the nursing staff asks the most recent visitor to leave the unit and return to their vehicle or wait outside until the other visitor leaves.
 - If a visitor refuses to comply with the nursing staff directives a call is placed to Public Safety for assistance.
- c. Circumstances Warranting Potential Exceptions by the Care Team
 - Critically ill/end of life patients:
 - Visitation established by the patient's care team and the Chaplain.
 - No limit on number of visitors permitted, provided care team approves and deems it is safe and feasible to meet social distancing guidelines.

- End of life patients' family are informed of the inherent risk with their visit.
 - Visitors are screened at GMP Lobby or AP Lobby.
 - End of life patients' family are informed of the inherent danger with their visit.
 - Following the patient's death, families are encouraged to arrange any additional visits for viewing the body with their funeral home or cremation service. Late viewing visits are currently not being offered in the hospital.
 - Hospice visitation policy established by the Seasons Hospice leadership team.
 - Pediatric patient population are allowed up to two parents or guardians for duration of hospitalization.
 - Obstetric Patients:
 - Patients in the Mother Baby Unit are allowed up to two support persons for duration of hospitalization (must be the same one throughout stay).
 - Patients in Labor and Delivery are allowed two support persons for duration of time spent in Labor & Delivery (must be the same one throughout stay).
 - Exceptions for additional support person will be considered by nursing staff.
 - Inpatients undergoing surgery may have one visitor for the duration of the procedure, provided social distancing can be accomplished, one visitor until patient is taken into prep, and visitor must then leave.
 - Patients with special needs or require special assistance may have two visitors for duration of hospitalization, provided social distancing can be accomplished.
 - In Psychiatric unit, one visitor is allowed for the duration of the stay at the discretion of the care team and approved in advance (must be the same person).
 - Other exceptions not listed above may arise and will be determined if appropriate by nursing leadership and ID professionals.
- d. COVID Visitation - COVID-19 patients may be allowed two visitors:
- All visitation exceptions require the patient's nurse to complete a Visitor Exception Form (See end of this document).
 - Public Safety collects the visitation exception forms twice daily at 9 am and then again at 3pm.
 - Public Safety distributes the forms to the GMP lobby staff, AP lobby staff, Guest Relations Office and Nursing Office. Visitation exception forms are valid for a 24-hour period unless specified and approved by the patient's care team for extenuating circumstances.
 - The visitors are not allowed to enter the room.
 - Patients with special needs may be allowed one visitor to enter patient room provided social distancing can be accomplished and care team is in agreement
 - The visit will be limited to a 30-minute visit between the times of 11am and 2pm and 5pm to 7pm daily.
 - Visit will be timed by staff.
- e. Upon discharge, inpatients are allowed one visitor to assist with the discharge process.
2. Outpatient areas
- a. Visitors accompanying patients are allowed into outpatient areas given the conditions for appropriate social distancing can be met.
 - b. In all outpatient areas and the Emergency Department, patients may be accompanied by two support person for length of test/stay at the nurse's discretion.
 - c. Pediatric patients may be accompanied by two parents or guardian for appointments (must be the same two throughout stay).
 - d. Swedish Medical Group offices
 - Patients visiting a Swedish Medical Group office are allowed one support person to accompany them to their appointment. Exceptions can be made for extenuating circumstances.
 - Approved visitors are screened upon arrival and asked to leave if displaying any symptoms or answering yes to any question during verbal screening.
 - e. Independent Physician's Offices
 - Patients may be accompanied by one support person for length of visit.

REFERENCES

City of Chicago, Chicago Department of Public Health – Communicable Disease Program. (December 16, 2020) Public Health Order Amendment and Hospital Visitation Recommendations by COVID-19 Risk Level.

COVID Visitation Exception

This form is to be filled out by the patient nurse of which a visitation exception has been granted to. Once form is filled out Public Safety is to be contacted for distribution amongst SH visitor entry points.

Today's Date: _____
Patient's Information:
Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Room #-Bed: _____

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic a temporary no visitation policy has been implemented for the safety of our patients and staff. The patient listed above has been granted an exception to this policy and the below named individual can visit. The below listed individual is required to provide picture ID to gain entrance as well as be screened for fever, respiratory illnesses, has not traveled to areas specified by the Chicago Department of Public Health, Illinois Department of Public Health, and/or Centers for Disease Control and not been in contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Name of Authorized Visitor
Name: _____
Relationship: _____

Approving Public Safety Supervisor: _____

Print Name: _____ **Date and Time:** _____

Nurse Signature: _____
Print Name: _____ Date and Time: _____
Unit Name: _____ Unit Extension: _____