

Guidelines for Visiting Patients with COVID-19 Still Requiring Isolation

Visitors are discouraged from visiting patients who have COVID-19 and require isolation due to the likelihood of spreading the virus to others. However, we understand there may be circumstances where visitation is needed or required for the care and wellbeing of the patient.

Please be aware that there is risk associated with visiting a patient who has COVID-19, especially those who are still contagious and/or are receiving non-invasive ventilation (biPAP, cPAP). To protect yourself and others, please follow all guidelines outlined below.

- Only one (1) visitor will be allowed each day for patients with COVID-19 requiring isolation. All visitors must wear a well-fitting mask (no bandanas or gaiters) at all times when inside the patient's room.
- Masks are optional but highly encouraged for visitors. Visitors who have had a positive COVID-19 test, have symptoms of COVID-19 or have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 within the past 10 days should not enter the hospital.
- Sleeping or extended overnight visitation must be pre-arranged with the nursing team.
- Visitors of patients with COVID-19 must wear all personal protective equipment (PPE) provided to them for the duration of their visit. Visitors will don a gown, gloves, surgical mask and eye protection. **Please report to nurse or nurses' station to get PPE prior to entering the patient's room.**
- Hospital staff will assist visitors with hand hygiene and putting on and taking off the PPE upon entering and exiting the patient's room.

COVID-19 is easily spread between people who are in close contact via respiratory droplets (sneezing, coughing or talking). While many people who have COVID-19 will have symptoms, the virus can still be spread by individuals who are infected but have no symptoms. Transmission can also occur if contaminated surfaces are touched and hand hygiene is not performed immediately after.

The best way to protect yourself and your household is following preventive actions including staying up to date with COVID-19 vaccines, staying home if you have suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and avoiding contact with others who have suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and washing your hands or using hand sanitizer after contact with surfaces.