

Visitor Guidelines for Patients in Special Pathogens Precautions for COVID-19

Special Pathogens Precautions are guidelines we require visitors of certain patients to follow to prevent the spread of certain germs in the hospital to other vulnerable patients. This includes protecting people from coming into contact with droplets that are coughed or sneezed, or droplets breathed out from people who have a new or emerging disease. Special Pathogens

Precautions protects:

- Other patients
- Families
- Visitors
- Staff

COVID-19 is one of the diseases requiring Special Pathogens Precautions. According to our current Visitor Guidelines, no visitors are allowed for patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 except for extremely limited situations. In situations where visitors are permitted, they must follow the guidelines below:

- Patients may have 1 visitor. This person can be an essential visitor, a primary family member or a caregiver who must adhere to the following:
 - All visitors are screened upon arrival and will not be allowed to enter if having symptoms of illness.
 - All visitors must wear a mask (either cloth mask brought from home or one that is provided) while in the healthcare facility.
 - The visitor must be isolated to the patient room at all times, including eating and using the toilet in the room. Bathing supplies may be provided.

- We strongly recommended that the visitor wear full Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) while in the room. This includes:
 - Gown
 - Gloves
 - Mask
 - Eye protection

Nursing staff will instruct the visitor on how to put on and remove the appropriate PPE.

- The visitor must practice good hand hygiene by frequently cleaning hands with either hand sanitizer or soap and water.
- The visitor may not come and go from the facility, or go to common areas within the facility. Visitors who leave are not allowed to return to the institution.
- If the visitor becomes ill, they will be asked to leave, and will not be allowed to return to the institution.

If you have further questions, please contact your nurse or doctor.

Last revised: 12/11/2020