

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, two adult primary caregivers are allowed for pediatric inpatients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19. Two visitors are also allowed for patients in Von Voigtlander Women's Hospital for patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19. When visitors are present, they must follow the guidelines below:

- 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 including in the patient's room except when eating or sleeping.
- Visitors must be isolated to the patient room at all times including eating.
 Visitors of patients on a general care floor must use the restroom/shower in the patient's room. Visitors of patients in the ICUs should use the restroom

- 1 -

facility in the patient's room, exception may be made on a case-by-case basis.

- Visitors may not go to common areas within the facility including the cafeteria.
- We strongly recommended that visitors 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.

- It is strongly recommended that only fully vaccinated individuals visit.
- Visitors must practice good hand hygiene by frequently cleaning hands with either hand sanitizer or soap and water.
- If a 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: 09/2021