

Screening Family Members and Visitors for the Flu



During influenza season, Michigan Medicine will be screening family and visitors for flu-like symptoms. This is being done in order to protect our patients by limiting the spread of the flu.

How is the flu virus spread?

Flu viruses are spread from person to person through droplets made when people with flu cough, sneeze, or talk. Flu viruses also may spread when people touch something with flu virus on it and then touch their mouth, eyes, or nose. Many other viruses spread these ways too.

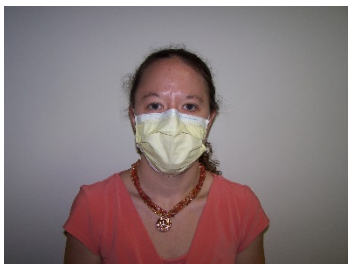


Screening Process for Family and Visitors:

- **Check in with clerk** –During the day, family and visitors will be asked to first stop at the information desk to check in with the unit clerk. At night, family and visitors will call the clerk via the elevator phone.
- **Clerk will ask about flu-like symptoms** – The unit clerk will ask all family and visitors if they have any flu-like symptoms. These include a cough, fever, sore throat, muscle or body aches. They will also be asked about other symptoms and exposures to communicable diseases. Those permitted to visit will be given a sticker each day of their visit.
 - **For visitors without symptoms**, they will be given a “healthy visitor” sticker and may proceed to your room.
 - **For visitors with symptoms**, they may be asked to wear a mask during their visit or asked to return to the hospital when they no longer have symptoms. If the visitor is asked to wear a mask, the mask should cover both the mouth and nose at all times. This will contain any coughs or sneezes your visitor may have and prevent them from spreading to you. Visitors with other symptoms or exposures to communicable diseases may also be asked to wear a mask or return to the hospital on a different day.



Proper Way to Wear a Mask



Cover both the mouth and nose



Remember:

Regardless of whether you or your visitor has symptoms or not, it is always a good idea to clean hands often and to cough/sneeze into a tissue or sleeve.



Infection Prevention and Epidemiology
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