

Visitor Policy Update

Updated: November 9, 2020 (reference 1-visitor policy, May 15, 2020)

As the number of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations continues to increase at TriHealth and throughout the region, our Command Center and physician leaders have decided to amend our inpatient visitor policy to allow 1 visitor per patient per day in our hospitals. TriHealth's top priority is to ensure the safety of our team members, physicians, patients, visitors and community. By limiting our policy to 1 visitor per day per patient in inpatient/hospital settings, we can better control and maintain social distancing and reduce the potential for increased spread of the disease in our care settings.

Current visitor restrictions in outpatient, ED, procedural areas, physician offices/practices and ambulatory remains restricted to 1 visitor per day, due to social distancing requirements and space constraints in the care setting.

Updated Visitor Policy – Inpatient and Med Surg

- The revised inpatient visitor policy will go into effect on Wednesday, November 11, 2020.
- 1 visitor per patient, except when the patient is in isolation:
 - Special circumstances and exceptions listed below, which will be handled on a case by case basis by clinical team.
 - Allowed visitors for each patient will continue to be documented in Epic.
- Restricted visiting hours remain in effect – 9am - 7pm daily:
 - No restriction on the duration of each visit.
 - The 1 visitor may leave and return during the day of the visit during visiting hours.
 - The visitor may stay overnight.
- All incoming visitors will continue to be screened for COVID-19 symptoms and must wear a mask:
 - If symptoms are suspected or detected, the visitor will be denied entry.
 - If the visitor refuses to wear a mask, they will be denied entry.
- Age restrictions: the minimum age for inpatient visitors is 15 years of age
 - In the **Outpatient, ED, procedural areas, physician offices/practices and ambulatory** setting where the 1-visitor restriction remains in force, the minimum age remains 16 years and above.
- COVID-19 patients in isolation will not be allowed visitors, with the exception of end of life care.

EXCEPTIONS to Updated Inpatient Visitor Policy

- The newly revised inpatient visitor policy does not supersede existing policies in place for special circumstances.

- The following areas have existing processes in place that do not change as a result of the updated inpatient visitor policy:
 - Maternity – 1 visitor per day and overnight.
 - Pediatrics – Physician office/practices, ambulatory and outpatient – 2 visitors allowed with visit, must be 16 and above.
 - NICU – 2 visitors per day, visitors remain restricted to the two people who received a band at the baby’s birth.
 - Special Care Nursery (SCN) at Bethesda North - 2 visitors per day, visitors remain restricted to the two people who received a band at the baby’s birth.
 - Psych – handled on case by case basis at the local level.
 - End of Life Care –handled on a case by case basis at the local level.
 - CVICU and MSICU – 1 visitor per day is allowed, but visiting hours are 9am-1pm and visitors must be age 16 years and above.
 - Bethesda North ICU – visiting hours are 9am-7pm
 - ED – 1 visitor per day.

- **Outpatient, procedural areas, physician offices/practices and ambulatory remain under the 1 visitor policy, due to space considerations in the care areas.**