

# Visitor Policy and Screening Process

## 1. Visitor Screening at the Entrances

**Essential visitor** is defined as a family member assisting (Ex. Patients with decreased mental capacity or patients with significant mobility issues that helps make decisions for the patient or answer any questions).

**Unique visitor** is defined as a support person.

One visitor will be allowed per patient as defined below. Visitors will be screened daily on the unit. Visitors to Inpatient units will be cleared through the House Supervisor (7134) via the daily list

1 asymptomatic visitor (unable to swap out) per patient for the duration of patient's stay in our outpatient surgery and inpatient settings.

- Visitors will be restricted in clinics, diagnostic areas and Cath lab.
- Visitors will be restricted for COVID-19/PUI patients, except in end of life circumstances.

Process:

1. Patients will provide the name of their one visitor. An approved visitor list will be sent by the house supervisor each day for access point screeners to cross check.
2. Visitors will be screened upon entry and re-entry to facility at entrance check points. If they are asymptomatic, they will be issued an arm band and daily sticker. Visitors failing the screening process will be asked to leave the facility. If the visitor does not leave the unit, the daily screening will be done on the unit and a sticker provided.
3. All visitors will be required to wear masks throughout the building. To conserve supplies, we are encouraging all to bring a mask from home. If someone arrives without a mask, one will be provided. If a visitor refuses to wear a mask, they will be asked to leave the facility.
4. Only patients will wait in the waiting areas due to limited room for social distancing, except for children and special needs patients.

<b>Non-Covid Patient</b>	
ED patients	0 visitors allowed. Except pediatrics, and those with a disability will be allowed one essential visitor. Also end of life situations will be handled case by case.
Inpatients/ICU/Peds/ L&D	Patient identifies 1 asymptomatic visitor for duration of stay
Surgery patients	Patient identifies 1 asymptomatic visitor for duration of stay; visitor will remain in patient's room.
Patients from Nursing Homes	1 visitor allowed, exception for end of life
Clinics/ Diagnostic testing / Cath Lab	0 visitors allowed. Except pediatrics or those with a disability will be allowed one.
<b>COVID/PUI Patients</b>	Only at end of life circumstances. Spouse/Partner/Adult Child, a single visitor may be permitted if they pass the entry screening. The visitor will wear a gown, gloves and surgical mask. The patient will wear a surgical mask, unless intubated. Staff will assist the visitor in donning and doffing so as not to cause self-contamination. Additional support persons will be permitted at the physician's discretion.

### **Outpatient Surgery and Pre-Admit Visitors:**

**Pre-Admit Appt** (Located in Cath Lab/Cardiac Rehab) patient may have one essential visitor to attend the pre-admit appointment with patient.

**Day of Surgery:** OP surgical patient will be allowed ONE support person. This support person must pass the screening process and will remain at the bedside for the entire patient stay.

**Cath lab procedures:** will have no visitors. Cardiologist and Cardiology staff will determine if a patient has special needs that will allow one essential visitor. This will be told to the screeners by the cardiology department.

**OP Surgery and Cath Lab:** Both patient and the one support person will be screened upon entry. Patient and support person must pass screening questions to proceed to Tower 1/Cardiology.

Patient:

**Pass screen-** mask and send to the department.

**Fail screen-** call department and nurse will report to screening station to evaluate patient.

Visitor:

A. **Pass Screen-** mask and send with patient

B. **Fail screen-** send out of facility and they will be called when patient is ready for discharged.

## **2. Patient screening at the entrances**

All patients entering the facility must be masked except for children 2 years old or younger and patients with severe breathing issues.

***Patients, visitors and Clinic staff going to Physician Offices in the Medical Office Building will be screened at their destinations. (Dr Trahan, Segura, Hebert and Jankuska)***

**ED – Patients** with Fever or reported fever **and** Covid type symptoms or stated Covid positive will have a red sticker placed on their armband and directed to the admission desk to sign in.

The admission clerk will ask if the patient has a red sticker.

If yes they will indicate “RED” on the white board.

ED staff will monitor the white board and process the “Red” patients as per established process, i.e. straight to the back to eliminate time in the waiting room, if possible.

**Lab and Radiology patients** with Fever or reported fever **and** Covid type symptoms or stated Covid positive will have a red sticker placed on their armband and directed to the radiology sign in station.

- The clerk at the sign in station will ask if the patient has a red sticker.
- If yes, they will indicate “RED” on the white board.
- Admitting staff will monitor the white board and process the “Red” patients as per established process, i.e. move these patients to the front of the line in order to reduce time in the waiting room.
- Lab orders – admitting staff will put the patient’s orders in a red folder and place in the draw station basket. This will signal the phlebotomist to prioritize this patient in order to reduce time in the waiting room.

**All other patients** with Fever or reported fever **and** Covid type symptoms or stated Covid positive will have a red sticker placed on their armband and sent to their destination. Exception are OP surgery and Cath Lab patients will be held at screening station and department will be called to come and assess the patient.