Winter Inpatient Visiting Guidelines
Summary for Staff

Effective November 13, 2018, until further notice

1. All visitors will be screened for wellness by verbal questionnaire.

2. Visiting hours are 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Visiting hours do not apply to legal guardians.

3. Children under age 5 may not visit.

4. No more than four people in a patient’s room at any one time; this includes legal guardians, siblings and visitors.

5. Legal guardians with mild respiratory symptoms may visit, and must wear a mask.

6. All other visitors, including siblings over age 5, must be well to visit.

7. The Welcome Center or designated screening personnel will issue a visitor badge, with a color coded sticker:

   - **Green** — Passed the screening, and may proceed to the inpatient unit. No mask required.

   - **Yellow** — Has not passed the wellness screening but may visit the inpatient unit. Mask is required at all times. Yellow stickers should be used for:
     - Legal guardians/primary caregivers
     - Other vital visitors who have been granted a compassionate exception, who have mild respiratory symptoms.

   - **Red** — Did not pass the screening and may not visit the inpatient unit. They may visit public areas but must wear a mask at all times.

8. Social visits from former patients and families must take place in public spaces of the hospital, not in patient care units.

9. Please redirect visitors back to the Welcome Center if they do not have a badge with a colored dot. This is a responsibility of all staff members.

10. All visitors will be instructed on hand hygiene at the point of visitor screening. **Bedside staff will reinforce the importance of hand hygiene.**

11. On the day of admission, children under age 5 may be allowed to visit if legal guardians were not aware of the visiting restrictions and/or have no childcare options.

12. After the day of admission, visiting exceptions for ill visitors or those under age 5 must go through the patient care manager or patient care supervisor.

13. For after-hours exceptions, the charge nurse will contact the unit-designated backup. Visiting exceptions for after-hours visits from well visitors 5 years and up may be made in consultation with the charge nurse.

Please refer to “Visiting Guidelines (Full Document for Staff)” for further details, including additional guidelines for neonatal areas, standing exceptions, compassionate exceptions and more.