

VISITATION GUIDELINES & POLICY

Effective August 3, 2021

Our first priority at Huntsville Hospital Health System is to *be safe, be caring and be kind*. With that in mind we have updated our visitation guidelines for family members and support persons. Thank you for your cooperation as we work to keep your patient, your family members and our staff safe.

To enter our facilities you must:

- To enter our facility you must be 16 years of age or older with a valid ID.
- Wear a mask/face covering, observe social distancing and sanitize hands frequently.

To keep you informed

- Upon admission, a point of contact and communication plan will be set with a family member or support person (16 years of age or older). Daily updates **will be provided to the point of contact, if requested.**
- Virtual visitation is available.
- The patient will provide their patient number for identification so that communication can take place between the hospital staff and family members.

Non COVID-19 patients, **two (2)** designated persons are allowed to visit.

COVID-19 positive patients (including patients who are under investigation for COVID-19), visitation is allowed under the following guidelines:

- Restricted to immediate family: parent, spouse, significant other and children (16 years of age or older)
- One (1) person may visit per day in non-ICU for up to 2 hours
- ICU visit must occur during one of the listed visiting times
- End-of-life and special circumstances are handled individually
- If supporting a COVID-19 patient, compliance with personal protective equipment (PPE) is required and will be provided by the hospital. Not wearing the provided PPE places you at high risk of being infected with COVID-19.

Adults

- It is important to stay in the room except for basic personal needs (ex: food/restroom).
- Please leave personal items in vehicle.
- Room size limits the use of additional chairs.

Emergency Department

- Due to the increasing numbers of Covid cases, ED is allowing ONE support person/caregiver, per patient, per hospital stay to support the patient's safety, emotional- well-being, and physical care. The person should be age 16 or above and follow the following guidelines provided during their stay:
 - No swapping in or out. Patient will be asked upon arriving for name of ONE Caregiver or Support person that will be allowed inside facility during entire stay.
 - End of life and special circumstances must be approved by Nursing

Mother-Baby

- **Two (2)** support **persons are** allowed at the bedside at a time.
- Minor siblings may visit the Mother Baby Unit for limited visitation time after the mother has delivered. No minors are allowed overnight.
- Minors must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

**Staff shall reserve the right to restrict visitor the opportunity to enter unit if non-compliance of the above criteria persists. In addition, staff shall be able to adjust guidelines to accommodate for compassionate care and end-of-life situations.*