

## MULTICARE HOSPITAL VISITOR RESTRICTIONS DURING COVID-19

COVID-19 cases are quickly increasing across Washington state. To make sure our patients, visitors and staff stay safe, MultiCare has established visitor restrictions at all our hospitals.

**AT THIS TIME, NO VISITORS WILL BE ALLOWED FOR PATIENTS INSIDE OUR HOSPITALS EXCEPT FOR:**

- Pediatric patients (17 or younger)
- NICU patients
- Family Birth Center patients
- Patients with mental, developmental or physical disabilities who need one caregiver for safety
- Patients who require services of an outside health care provider or spiritual leader
- Patients at the end of life

(Please see second page for details)

**ALL ALLOWED VISITORS OR CAREGIVERS WILL BE SCREENED FOR SYMPTOMS**

**EVERYONE IS REQUIRED TO WEAR A MASK.**

Visitors and caregivers may not enter if they:

- Are 17 years of age or younger
- Have any of the following symptoms:
  - Cough
  - Sore throat
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - New loss of sense of taste or smell
  - Fever or chills
  - Unexplained muscle ache
  - Headache
  - Runny nose or congestion
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhea
- Have been in close contact with or exposed to a person who has COVID-19 or who is waiting for the results of a COVID-19 test.

Patients with appointments at ambulatory clinics within hospital facilities also will be screened before entering.

## **VISITS TO PATIENTS WITHOUT COVID-19**

- Pediatric inpatients (17 years and under ) may have only the same two parents or caregivers during their hospital stay. Pediatric outpatient surgery patients may have only one caregiver.
- Adult surgical patients may have one caregiver for transportation purposes to and from the hospital only.
- NICU patients will be allowed two visitors or caregivers in a 24-hour period.
- Family Birth Center patients will be allowed two healthy support people during the labor and birth process. A support person is a spouse or partner, a family member, a friend or a trained doula.
  - The support person must be at least 17 years of age, unless they are the parent of the baby or a significant other.
  - Two hours after delivery only one support person will be able to remain at the bedside. The second person will be required to leave the hospital.
  - The one support person will be the same individual throughout the entire hospital stay
  - Please arrange for care of children, family members and pets in advance so you can focus on your birth and new baby.

Antepartum patients may have one visitor or caregiver within a 24-hour period

- Patients who have a mental, developmental or physical disability, such as hearing loss or vision impairment, may have one caregiver for safety.
- Patients who are at the end of life may have four visitors in a 24-hour period, with two visitors at a time. End-of-life visits from a minor are permissible if accompanied by a parent or guardian and approved by the care team. One immediate family member of end-of-life patient may spend the night, but no sleeping accommodations will be provided.
- Patients who require a home caregiver to be trained may have one visitor in addition to the caregiver, only for the length of the training session.

## **VISITS TO PATIENTS WITH COVID-19 OR WHO ARE BEING TESTED FOR COVID-19**

No visitors will be allowed in rooms of patients who have tested positive for COVID-19 or who are being tested for COVID-19, except for:

- End-of-life patients -- visits limited to an hour and no overnight stays.
- Pediatric patients (17 years old or younger) – two healthy parents or caregivers at a time with two in 24-hour period
- Family Birth Center patients – same as above.

Visitors to COVID-19-positive patients or patients suspected of having COVID-19 are required to wear full personal protective equipment (PPE) when in the patient's room. The unit's nursing staff will provide instruction on how to put on and remove the PPE. Remove the PPE when leaving the room, wash hands thoroughly or use hand sanitizer and then directly exit the hospital.