



**Visitor Policy during COVID-19**

**Purpose:** To provide guidelines for patient visitors/support persons during COVID-19.

**Scope:** All Valley View facilities

**Responsibility:** All Valley View Staff

**Policy:**

1. Patient visitors/support persons are limited due to COVID-19.
2. Patients with disabilities (which is defined by the ADA as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, a person who has a history or record of such an impairment, or a person who is perceived by others as having such an impairment) who require help with the provision of medical or behavioral health care, activities of daily living, speaking for the patient or keeping the patient safe, may have a designated assistance person.
3. Patients will have access to chaplains or clergy in addition to their visitor/support person.
4. Patient visitors/support person are assessed for COVID-19 symptoms upon entry to the facility according to current CDC guidelines. If COVID-19 symptoms are present, the visitor will not be allowed.
5. All visitors/support persons are instructed to wear a facemask or cloth face covering at all times while in the facility, to perform frequent hand hygiene, and restrict their visit to the patient’s room.
6. COVID patients may be allowed visitors who have been fully vaccinated, according to specific department visitor guidelines.

**Guidelines:**

1. See department/clinic specific policies and guidelines for additional information:
  - a. [Acute Care and Critical Care Visitor Policy during COVID-19](#)
  - b. [FBP-Labor and Delivery COVID-19 Guidelines](#)
  - c. [REHAB-Outpatient In-Person Appointment During Time of Infection Disease Risk](#)
  - d. [REHAB-Pediatric Outpatient Rehabilitation Services during COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
  - e. [Surgical Services Policy for Visitors during COVID-19](#)

**References:**

1. Infection Control: Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (sars-cov-2). Retrieved from [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html#manage\\_access](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html#manage_access)
2. U.S Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Office for Civil Rights (OCR). (2020). *OCR Resolves Religious Discrimination Complaint after Maryland Hospital System Ensures Patients Can Receive Religious Visitations During COVID-19*. <https://www.hhs.gov/ocr/newsroom/index.html>

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