

# AMENDED HOSPITAL VISITATION GUIDELINES FOR LEVEL 1

Allowing patients to be visited by their loved ones is an essential part of their recovery and wellness. It is also reassuring for young patients or the elderly to have an escort present when visiting the emergency room or outpatients department. However, with the COVID-19 pandemic we must remain vigilant to avoid congestion and to maintain a safe physical distance between people by decreasing the number of people in our facilities.

## AMENDED VISITATION GUIDELINES:

Visitors and escorts are only allowed at health facilities under special circumstances. All visitors and escorts must be screened at the entrance of the facility.



### Outpatients:

- o One escort is allowed for paediatric, disabled, vulnerable, or enfeebled (weak) patients. No escorts allowed for other patients.



### Emergency Unit:

- o Paediatric patients – one escort allowed to accompany patient into emergency room.
- o Terminal patients – family members allowed to be present, but only one or two family members allowed to be present at a time.
- o Disabled/vulnerable patients – one escort may be allowed depending on situation. Will be assessed on case-to-case basis.
- o All other patients: One escort who will remain in waiting room if there is sufficient space.



### Inpatients (adults):

- o Limited to 30 minutes visitation per visitor.
- o Visiting time period of 60 minutes per day. Confirm with hospital what the ward's visiting hours are before visiting.
- o Terminally ill patients allowed to be visited by loved ones. Restricted to 30 min per person per day – more people and longer time at discretion of ward manager.



### Inpatients (paediatric):

- o One parent/caregiver can be with the patient.
- o Parent/caregiver can alternate with other parent/caregiver, but only one allowed with patient at a time.
- o More family members allowed for terminal patients for 30 minutes, one person at a time. More people and longer time slots at discretion of ward manager.



### Neonatal patients:

- o Mother can remain with patient or regularly visit.
- o Birthing partner or one designated person can visit daily for 30 minutes. Longer visitation at discretion of ward manager.



### Maternity & labour:

- o COVID-19 positive patients in labour – no birthing partners allowed.
- o COVID-19 negative patients in labour – one birthing partner during active labour if sufficient space and privacy available.
- o C-section: Birthing partners not allowed in theatre but can visit mother and baby for 30 minutes in postnatal ward.
- o Post-natal ward: Birthing partner allowed to visit mother and new-born for 30 minutes per day during visiting period.



### COVID-19 and PUI patients:

- o No visitors allowed.
- o Can drop off parcels (toiletries, food, books, etc.)
- o Exceptions will be made for terminally ill patients.

All other adult patients are not allowed visitors. Parcels (toiletries, food, books) can be dropped off at the facility. Family will be updated on patient's condition – please ensure they have the correct contact number on file.

**Please note:** Guidelines and will be assessed and implemented according to each facility's current situation and capacity. Please call the relevant facility before visiting to ask about their visitation guidelines. All patients and visitors to maintain the following safety precautions: wear a mask over your mouth and nose, maintain a physical distance, ensure good ventilation, and wash or sanitise hands often.



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