

Visitation Policy

Policy Detail and Procedures - Effective Date 10/01/2022

CRITERIA FOR COMMUNITY TO OFFER GENERAL VISITATION:

- Community visitation hours are allowed 24 hours a day.

TRIGGERS FOR TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING VISITATIONS:

- None unless instructed by local health department or per state guidelines.

COMMUNITY CRITERIA:

- Visitor must sign in at the receptionist desk.
- Community will provide alcohol-based hand rub to visitors at entry.
- Community must have an adequate supply of personal protective equipment, including masks, gloves, face shields, and gowns for routine facility use and for use in family visits when there is an active case of Covid 19 in the community.
- Family members, friends, and individuals visiting residents in end-of-life situations including any resident enrolled in hospice are allowed visitation at any time.

RESIDENT CRITERIA:

- Residents that are currently in isolation due to recently testing positive for Covid-19, have signs and symptoms of Covid-19, or currently are in a quarantine or observation period are eligible for indoor visits. Resident and visitor are encouraged to wear a face mask during the visit.
- If a resident is enrolled in hospice care in end-of-life situations, they are allowed visitation.

VISITOR CRITERIA:

- Visitors are encouraged to use alcohol-based hand rub upon entering and exiting the community.

GENERAL VISITATION GUIDELINES:

In-person visitation is allowed in all of the following circumstances, unless the resident objects:

- End-of-life situations. A resident who was living with family before being admitted to the community is struggling with the change in environment and lack of in-person family support.
- The resident is making one or more major medical decisions.
- A resident is experiencing emotional distress or grieving the loss of a friend or family member who recently died.
- A resident needs cueing or encouragement to eat or drink which was previously provided by a family member or caregiver.
- A resident who used to talk and interact with others is seldom speaking.
- Visitors and residents may have close contact (including touch, hugs, assisting with activities of daily living, etc.).
- The community will follow a visitor and resident visit check-in process.
- The community should maintain a hand sanitizing station at the entrance of the visiting area, at the check-in location, as well as the area visitor screening occurs. Visitors must sanitize hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or by handwashing with soap and water when entering and exiting.
- The community may suspend in-person visitation of a specific visitor if the visitor is unable to adhere to the core principles of infection control and preventions, violates community policy or procedure, or if otherwise required to suspend or restrict visitation under state or federal law.
- The community may require visitors to use a facemask or other appropriate PPE as required by community policy or procedure, local health department guidance, or state or federal law.
- The community may require additional infection control protocols for visitors as required by community policy or procedure, local health department guidance, or state or federal law.
- Executive Director or designee shall be responsible for compliance with this policy and procedure.

ESSENTIAL CAREGIVER:

- A resident, client, or patient may designate a visitor who is a family member, friend, guardian, or other individual as an essential caregiver.
- Communities shall permit in-person visitation by the essential caregiver for at least 2 hours daily in addition to any other visitation authorized by the community.
- An essential caregiver is not required to provide necessary care to a resident, client, or patient of a community, and communities may not require an essential caregiver to provide such care.