

Visitation Guideline Summary for SH Staff and Providers

These guidelines are based on what the Oregon Health Authority directed for hospital visitation (issued 6/9/2020, <https://sharedsystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/le2282.pdf>). This guide summarizes our current policy. If you have non urgent questions, suggestions, or concerns, feel free to email Hong Lee (hong.lee@salemhealth.org), who will forward your inquiry to the Visitation Committee.

Screening Criteria

Anyone saying yes to any of the following will not be let in unless you are a *guaranteed visitor*:

- Symptomatic of fever, sore throat, runny nose, cough, shortness of breath, and body aches
- International travel within the last 14 days to CDC Level 3 risk countries with restrictions on entry into the US (red on map).
 - (For updated information on restricted countries visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notices.html>)
- Currently being tested for COVID-19, or diagnosed as COVID-19 positive.
- Contact outside of the hospital with known or suspected COVID-19 cases within the last 14 days.
- Cruise ship travel within the last 30 days.

COVID Positive/Pending Patients

If patient is COVID positive or pending, we would generally not allow visitors. However, the care team (Attending, RN, others on the team relevant to the discussion to consider whether it is an acceptable risk) can make a case by case exception if they believe there is enough PPE available organizationally, and the visit can be done safely. We would also ask you give special consideration to:

- Close family and friends of end of life patients
- Caregivers of patients with disabilities/special needs
- Parents or guardians of pediatric patients
- Support person for patient in labor
- Patients and family/friends of patients who are suffering from great physical or emotional toll

All Patients (except COVID positive/pending, see above) are Allowed at Least One Visitor a Day.

No special restrictions on this one visitor, as long as they follow the rules and pass screening. This does not have to be the same visitor across different days.

Guaranteed Visitors

The following are guaranteed visitation, even if they can't pass the screening criteria as long as they follow our PPE rules and the unit leadership does not believe the visitor poses an unacceptable safety risk. They may be asked to delay visit if social distancing can't be observed (determined by unit leadership):

- Close (i.e. immediate) family of end of life patients. End of life is defined as the attending provider believes the patient is appropriate for hospice/comfort care (note that patient doesn't have to accept comfort care, just appropriate for it)

- Parents/guardians of pediatric patients. If one parent/guardian meets screening criteria, but the other doesn't, we'll let the one that meets criteria visit.
- Caregivers or attendants of patients who require special assistance (i.e. language barrier, communication, assistance with patient's disability whether physical, mental, developmental or behavioral). Caregivers and attendants who can assist the patient with treatment, help with patient and staff safety, or help with ADLs also fall in this category.

Appeals, Complaints, Clarifications

- Sometimes, patients or families/friends of patient may be unhappy with these guidelines.
 - For those who feel they were unfairly restricted from visiting, please give them information on how to contact Patient Advocates.
 - For those who want to ask for an exception, please forward to unit leadership
 - When exceptions are granted please let the screeners know (x4-8735) to close the loop
- If you are unsure how these guidelines apply or want extra guidance, please contact:
 - Patient Advocate during normal business hours (M-F 8-4:30)
 - House Supervisor after hours, weekends, and during holidays

For Unit Leadership

- Determine maximum visitor limit for a patient room at a single time for your area, based on safety and social/physical distancing considerations. All approved visitors will be expected to respect social distancing guidelines.
- Determine if a visitor is an unacceptable safety risk and deny entry to such visitors until safety concerns are addressed.
- Evaluate exception requests by staff, patients, and others. For exceptions requests and clarifications:
 - Consider where the organization is in terms of PPE. If visitor can bring their own PPE, this would not apply.
 - Give consideration to patients and family/friends of patients who are suffering from a great physical or emotional toll
 - In general, we ask that you err on the side of leniency in your decisions as long as all the general safety considerations are addressed.

Other Considerations

- No visitors during any care or procedures that care team members believe have a high risk of contamination (e.g. code blue, extubation, etc.)
- All visitors must comply with our mask use and proper hand hygiene, PPE stewardship, and not wander around. Visitors are allowed to use bathrooms and patronize dining facilities.
- Outside of operational considerations (i.e. visitation practices that affect efficient unit operation or safety), no length of stay restrictions will be imposed.
- If there are more "approved visitors" than allowed for a patient for the day, the patient (or authorized decision maker if the patient can't make their own decisions) will select who those visitors will be up to the limit.
- Prescreening for symptoms, travel and contact history by telephone prior to scheduled appointments is allowed.