

# Skyline Health New Visitor Procedure

To reduce the spread of COVID-19, we have updated our visitor policy to help keep our community safe.

## Visitor restrictions at Skyline Health

At Skyline Health, we are committed to compassionate care. If your loved one is a hospital patient, we know how important it is for you to support them, but we also must make sure we protect the health and safety of our community.

Using the latest recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as state and local health authorities, we have updated the visitor policy at our hospital to limit the spread of COVID-19.

We ask you to consider using phone calls or video chat (FaceTime, Zoom, etc.) as a way for you to visit your loved ones while they are in the hospital. We can help them access video technology, if needed.

### For patients who do not have COVID-19 and are not under investigation for the virus:

- Patients may have **one (1) essential individual** to visit a patient on any day. If you are the essential visitor, you must be age 18 or older and healthy (no cold or flu-like symptoms and no fever).
- You will be screened about your health before you are allowed to enter the hospital. You will be asked to wear a mask while in our facility at all times.
- The visitor must remain in the room with the patient or in a designated area and leave the facility when done visiting.
- **Two (2) essential visitors** may be allowed on a case-by-case basis for:
  - Children admitted to the hospital
  - Patients receiving end-of-life or palliative care
  - Other special circumstances, as needed
- Change in the patient's condition or status may result in the change of the visitation.

### For patients who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are under investigation for the virus:

In-person visitors are not allowed for patients diagnosed with COVID-19 or those being tested for the virus. Exceptions may be made in some cases, including the following:

- Pediatric patients (patients under age 18) may have **one** parent or legal guardian, or an adult designated by the parent or legal guardian, with them during their time in the hospital.
- Patients who have altered mental status or developmental delays and who rely on a family member or guardian for their safety may have that person with them during their hospital stay.
- Patients receiving end-of-life care are allowed two screened visitors.
- If you are visiting a patient who has COVID-19 or who is under investigation for the virus, you will need to follow these steps:
  - You will be given a mask to wear when you arrive at the hospital
  - You must follow safety guidelines to limit the spread of COVID-19, including washing your hands, limiting the surfaces you touch and using any personal protective equipment required by the hospital.
  - You must remain in the patient's room except during certain care procedures.

### Restrictions for the emergency room:

- Patient may have one (1) support person that must remain in the same room with the patient, or should return to their car.
- The visitor will be asked to wear a mask while in the facility.

(Updated: May 20, 2020)