

Visitation Restrictions – COVID-19

Procedural, Perioperative, Radiology, and Ambulatory Areas

Yale New Haven Health continues to restrict visitation. To protect our patients, families, employees and the community during the outbreak of COVID-19, the health system is restricting visits from family, friends and the community until the transmission of COVID-19 is no longer a threat.

Patients coming into a procedural, perioperative, radiology, or ambulatory area may not be accompanied by a partner unless an exception is made. **Exceptions** can be made for the following reasons:

- One parent may accompany a child under the age of 18 for their test and/or procedure.
- Same day Surgery - one visitor allowed to stay (in designated waiting area during surgery/procedure)
- Inpatient/overnight surgical patient - no visitor allowed. Visitor can accompany the patient to pre-op, then must leave after.
- *No visitors for HVC or Radiology
- Exceptions will also be made for patients with disabilities who may need a support person with them to support their disability related needs.
 - Patients with disabilities may include but not be limited to:
 - Altered mental status
 - Physical, intellectual or cognitive disability
 - Communication barriers or
 - Behavioral concerns
 - The support person may be a family member, personal care assistant or similar disability service provider or other individual knowledgeable about the management of their care.
- When patients are under the supervision of DDS, staff will work collaboratively with DDS to determine appropriate visitation to meet patient's needs. (One visitor only.)
- For a support person to be present in obstetrics for issues surrounding pregnancy loss.

If an exception is made, the visitor must follow these instructions:

- All visitors must pass the screening at entry to be allowed visitation.
- All visitors must wear a mask while on hospital grounds. Any mask is acceptable, including homemade masks. If visitor does not have a mask, one will be provided.
- If the visitor is visiting a COVID positive patient and are NOT providing hands on care, the visitor can continue to wear the mask that they entered the hospital wearing. If the visitor is providing care for a COVID positive patient they should be supplied with an isolation gown, eye protection and gloves. N95/Respirator is not required.
- Restrictions include YNHHS employees who have family members in the hospital.
- Additional exception requests will be determined on a case-by-case basis by clinical leadership.
- All significant issues that arise related to visitation should be directed to Patient Relations, not the COVID-19 Call Center.