



## TEMPORARY VISITOR RESTRICTIONS NOTICE

To Our Patients, Families, and Community,

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDDHS) has provided guidelines for healthcare facilities to continue to take safety measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

We recognize the importance of the support by loved ones during a patient's hospitalization or when receiving care. Because our patient care philosophy depends greatly on engaging families to be present as part of the healing process, any decision to restrict visitation and limit family presence is difficult. However, the health and safety of the patients under our care and of our employees is crucial.

Therefore, we will continue to restrict the numbers of visitors at our facilities until the transmission of COVID-19 is no longer a threat. As we are able to safely allow more visitors, we will do so.

If you are not able to visit your loved one, our staff will work with you so that you can talk to your loved one by phone or video visits so that you can keep in touch.

### **In accordance with MDDHS orders, visitors and patients entering an HFHS facility should expect these safety measures:**

- Entry into HFHS facilities, including Emergency Departments, clinics, diagnostic testing areas, is limited to main entrance points 24/7.
- Masks must be worn at all times by staff, patients and visitors age 5 years and older. Those who need a mask will receive one upon entry. Anyone who refuses to wear a mask will not be allowed to enter the facility.
- All patients, visitors and staff are screened before entry to our facilities including a temperature check. Those who show possible signs of illness are referred for proper medical care.
  - If a person fails the screening, they will not be allowed to enter the facility.
- Practice social distancing in places like elevators, waiting areas, lobbies, cafeterias and more.
- All visitors must remain with the patient except for quick trips to the bathroom or to purchase food. When the visit or appointment is over, visiting people must leave the facility promptly. Visitors are asked to refrain from eating, drinking or sharing patient restroom while visiting with inpatients.
- HFHS strongly discourages visitors who are at high risk of developing severe complications from COVID-19 including older adults and persons with underlying medical conditions. This includes hospital visitation and accompanying patients for medical appointments.

***It is critical that EVERYONE wash their hands or use hand sanitizer each and every time they enter or exit patient rooms and public areas. Masks must be worn at all times.***

**All visitors are currently prohibited from most HFHS facilities except for the situations listed on the next page.** These exceptions only apply if a visitor screens negative for:

- COVID-19 diagnosis in the past 10 days OR
- Unprotected contact (i.e. no mask and/or social distancing) with anyone in the past 14 days with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 OR
- New loss of taste and/or sense of smell
- Fever defined as  $\geq 100.4$  F OR
- TWO OR MORE new symptoms in last 3 days: fever, chills, drenching sweats, cough, shortness of breath, body aches, headache, sore throat, runny nose or nasal congestion, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea, or loss of taste or sense of smell.



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### All Settings: the following visitors are allowed in all settings:

- Visitors with power of attorney /surrogate decision-makers, or court-appointed guardianship. This includes allowance for visitors for the purposes of witnessing/notarizing documents for patients.
- Visitors who are needed to assist patients with physical or mental disabilities of any kind, including patients who are deaf, hard of hearing and blind
- Drivers for patients (including children) undergoing surgery or procedures or emergency care; driver must leave the facility as soon as possible after the encounter and must remain in designated waiting area.
- Personnel providing services to our patients like interpreter services and chaplains will be admitted.

**Inpatient Setting:** Unless otherwise specified below, one visitor is allowed per patient in a 24-hour period. No more than two different visitors are allowed for the duration of the inpatient hospitalization.

- Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) or Special Care Nursery (SCN): One birth parent or guardian per infant
- Pediatric unit: One parent/care giver; they may switch with one other during the 24-hour period if needed.
- Minors in inpatient behavioral health units: Arrangements will be made for one parent or guardian to visit at an off-unit location.
- Obstetric patients may have one person accompany them. In addition, a doula with appropriate credentials may also accompany a laboring mother for labor and for a period after birth.
- Patients who are at the end-of-life or in hospice may have visitors, with the number of visits and visitors at the discretion of hospital leadership. Visitors may include family members under the age of 16 with permission of the health care team.
- Patients with pending or positive COVID-19 tests: No visitors will be allowed except in the following situations:
  - Patients with pending or positive COVID-19 tests who are at end of life.
  - Laboring mothers and pediatric patients.
  - Any other extenuating circumstance as approved by hospital leadership.

### Outpatient Setting:

- Patients who have an appointment at a HFHS clinic, laboratory, radiology or are visiting the Emergency Department may have one person with them if needed to transport the patient into and around the facility.
- Patients in outpatient settings may have one visitor present who is necessary for the provision of medical care or the support of activities of daily living, e.g. for patients who are cognitively impaired, or for encounters that include initiation of series-based treatment or discussion of clinical care decisions.
- Children may have one parent/caregiver with them for encounters, two for an infant 2 months old or less.
- Prenatal visits: Spouses/partners may attend the patient's prenatal, ultrasound and NST appointments.

### Emergency Departments:

- One visitor who passed COVID screen is allowed per patient. If critically ill patient or end of life, 2 visitors will be allowed. All visitors should remain in the patient room at all times.
- Visitors who do not pass COVID screen are not allowed to visit unless they are the parent or legal guardian of a minor patient, the support person for a patient in labor, or if they meet allowances in the "All Settings" section above. Two visitors allowed for critically ill or end of life patients.

We appreciate your understanding during these uncertain times. Our goal is to protect you, your loved one and our staff. If you have questions, please check our website: <https://www.henryford.com/coronavirus>

Thank you,

Your Henry Ford Health System care team

