

Visitation Policy During COVID-19 Pandemic

As part of a comprehensive response to the COVID-19 outbreak, Ascension Saint Thomas has evaluated our visitor policies. Our guidance addresses your safety and the safety of our associates, physicians, and community, while ensuring that we continue to deliver optimal care. Our priority is to reduce transmission and to protect people who are at higher risk for adverse health complications. This guidance is subject to change.

Going forward, please comply with the following revised guidance. Masking is still required within our facility. No persons under the age of 18 shall be allowed in the facility.

- **For all patients who are NOT COVID-19 positive or under investigation for COVID-19,** visitors are temporarily restricted to:
 - One visitor per patient at a time, up to two total visitors per day
 - Visitation is limited to the patient's room
 - Additional visitors must wait outside the facility
 - Visitors staying overnight must arrive prior to 8:00pm
 - Exceptions to visitation hours include end of life situations or those arriving for surgery before 8:00am
 - Visitation is limited to one visitor in the Emergency Department.
- **For all patients who ARE COVID-19 positive or under investigation for COVID-19, visitation is restricted.**
 - All patient rooms are equipped with a landline and can be used to reach loved ones
 - Exceptions to our visitation policy may be made by hospital leadership balancing the health risks and the patient's right to receive visitors. Predefined exceptions include:
 - Additional visitors for End of life care as determined by our care team
 - All persons (including visitors) will be screened upon entry into the facility and **required to wear a mask** throughout the duration of their visit. **Anyone failing to maintain proper masking will be asked to leave.**
 - Screening questions will include: 1.) Do you have a fever? 2.) Do you have a cough? 3.) Do you have difficulty breathing? 4.) chills? 5.) muscle pain? 6.) new loss of taste or smell? 7.) vomiting or diarrhea? 8.) Sore throat? 9.) Are you or anyone in your household awaiting COVID test results due to illness or known exposure OR have you or has anyone in your household tested positive for COVID?
 - Anyone that answers "yes" to any of these questions will not be allowed to enter the facility.

We encourage any support persons to use personal devices for communication and to remain socially distant during the duration of their visit. **Thank you for your support in adhering to these guidelines, and thank you for trusting Ascension Saint Thomas for your care.**