

COVID-19: Visitor Restrictions Policy

The safety of UVA Health team members and patients is our highest priority. However, UVA Health recognizes that visits from family, friends and others are important to our patients. In an effort to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and protect, to the greatest extent possible, our patients, team members, and the community during the COVID-19 outbreak, routine patient visitation is restricted to designated visitors and subject to the following requirements. These visitation restrictions and requirements are intended to balance preventing the spread of COVID-19 with the needs of our patients and their loved ones.

- Patients or their surrogate decision maker may identify one or two people, depending on the patient care area, as designated visitors. When two designated visitors are allowed, only one visitor may visit at a time. Designated visitors cannot change during your stay.
 - Patients in the hospital or having an inpatient procedure can have two designated visitors, one at a time, between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m.
 - Patients in the Emergency Department can have one designated visitor.
 - Patients scheduled for an outpatient procedure can have one designated visitor. Please see your care team for information where you can wait during the procedure.
 - Visitors are not permitted in clinics.
 - At the Transitional Care Hospital, patients can have two visitors at defined times, but only one at a time.
 - Certain patient care areas and circumstances (e.g. patients in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, transplant patients, patient's giving birth, patient's being discharged, patient's with a critical diagnosis or care planning, or patient's at the end of life) may have special restrictions and/or exceptions. Patients or their surrogates should talk with the patient's health care team to learn more about any special restrictions or exceptions.

Exception to the above: Pediatric patients and patients with disabilities may have one adult visitor with them 24/7 throughout an inpatient admission, emergency department visit, or outpatient visit or procedure.

- Clergy is included as one of the designated visitors. Some exceptions for end of life rituals or related traditions.
- All visitors will be screened prior to building entry and must be free of contagious disease symptoms such as COVID-19 and be COVID-19 negative. Visitors are encouraged to bring a mask from home, or one will be provided during the screening process.

- Visitors must wear mask at all times within UVA Health buildings, including at the bedside and in clinic exam rooms.
- Designated visitors must remain with the patient. If visitors need to travel to other areas of UVA Health facility (cafeteria, restroom, etc.), they are expected to go and then return immediately to the bedside, clinic or permitted waiting area.
- The non-visiting designated visitor (not at bedside or with patient) cannot wait in the lobby, cafeteria or other public space. Waiting options are outside of UVA Health buildings or in personal vehicle, home, etc.
- Access to public space is restricted to maintain social distancing practice.
- No visitors will be allowed for patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 except in end-of-life situations, visiting pediatric patients or when deemed necessary by the patient's health care team for the safety or well-being of a patient with a physical, cognitive, behavioral or other special needs.
- Groups of visitors are not permitted to gather or wait in the Medical Center lobby, chapel, cafeteria, etc.
- Food can be taken to acute inpatient rooms. The designated visitor would need to place a mask on when health care workers enter the room, if removed to eat.
- Food cannot be taken to ICU units.

Patients and their surrogate decision makers can name one or two adults to be Care Partners. Care Partners may or may not be designated as the patient's designated visitor. A Care Partner must be identified as a designated visitor in order to visit.

UVA Health will continue to monitor the spread of COVID-19 in our community, and retains the right to include additional visitation restrictions or requirements as needed to provide for the safety of our patients and team members.

Patients or visitors should speak to their care team if there are any questions regarding this policy.