

COVID-19: Visitor Restrictions Policy

Effective: January 13, 2021

UVA Health is prohibiting, with limited exception, routine patient visitation in an effort to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and protect our patients, team members, and the community to the greatest extent possible during the COVID-19 outbreak. UVA Health recognizes that visits from family, friends and others are important to our patients. However, the safety of UVA Health team members, patients, and visitors is our highest priority.

UVA Health has established standard exceptions for certain patients and circumstances, such as pediatric patients, patients with disabilities, transplant patients, patients giving birth, patients being discharged with complex discharge education, patients with a critical diagnosis or care planning, and patients at the end of life. Visitors and patients are informed of standard exceptions through visitor and patient education materials. Patients or visitors may also speak to their care team if they have questions about the visitation policy or exceptions.

Designated Visitors approved by exception are subject to the following requirements:

- All designated 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.
- Designated visitors must wear a 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.
- No additional non-designated visitor, nor any groups of visitors, (not at bedside or with patient) can wait in the lobby, cafeteria or other public space. Waiting options remain outside of UVA Health buildings or in personal vehicles, at home, etc.
- Access to public space is restricted to maintain social distancing practice.
- 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.