

COVID-19: Visitor Restrictions Policy

Effective: August 26, 2021

In an effort to continue to protect our patients, team members, and the community at-large during the COVID-19 outbreak, patient visitation is subject to the following requirements:

- Visitors must be 18 years of age or older.
- Patients in the hospital can identify 2 designated visitors for the length of their stay. Only 1 designated visitor at a time is allowed at the bedside between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. The designated visitors can change out between these times as long as there is no more than 1 at the bedside at a time. 1 designated visitor can stay overnight at the bedside.
- Pediatric patients can have 2 designated visitors accompany the patient in care areas, excepted where prohibited, i.e. ORs.
- Adult patients in the Emergency Department can have one designated visitor.
- Adult patients scheduled for an outpatient procedure can have one designated visitor. Similar to routine visitation, there may be times when no visitors or only one visitor is permitted.
- Adult patients in clinics can have one visitor permitted with them in clinic.
- At the Transitional Care Hospital, patients can identify two designated visitors for the length of their stay. Only 1 designated visitor at a time is allowed at the bedside between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. Visitors can change out between these times as long as there is no more than 1 at the bedside at a time. 1 designated visitor can stay overnight at the bedside.
- Clergy can be an additional visitor over the current visitor limit.
- No visitors will be allowed for Patients Under Investigation (PUIs) or COVID-19 positive unless at end of life (follow Special Pathogen Unit guidance), pediatric patient or deemed necessary for the safety or well-being of a patient with a disability or other special need.

Designated visitors are subject to the following requirements:

- 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 must wear a mask at all times within UVA Health buildings, including at the bedside and in clinic exam rooms. Visitors are encouraged to bring a mask from home, or one will be provided during the screening process.
- The lobbies, cafeterias and clinic waiting rooms are open to patients and designated visitors only. UVA Health retains the right to limit this access if necessary to maintain social distancing.
- Food can be taken to acute inpatient rooms. The visitor must use a mask at all items other than when actively eating.
- Food cannot be taken to ICU units.
- Large groups of visitors are not permitted to congregate in the public space.

UVA Health has established standard exceptions for certain patients and circumstances. Designated 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.