

Interim COVID-19 Visitation					
<i>Date Implemented:</i>	02-16-2021	<i>Date Reviewed/ Revised:</i>		<i>Reviewed/ Revised By:</i>	

Policy:

This facility will allow visitation of all visitors and non-essential health care personnel through different means based on facility structure and residents' needs, such as resident rooms, dedicated visitation spaces, outdoors, and for circumstances beyond compassionate care situations. The visitation will be person-centered, consider the resident's physical, mental, and psychosocial well-being, and support their quality of life. Exceptions will be in accordance with current CMS directives and CDC recommendations, or as directed by state government (whichever is more stringent).

Policy Explanation and Compliance Guidelines:

1. Facility leadership will monitor the status of the COVID-19 situation through the CDC website and local/state health department, and will keep staff, residents, and families informed of current directives/ recommendations and the need for restricting visitation if indicated.
2. The facility will communicate this visitation policy through multiple channels. Examples include signage, calls, letters, social media posts, and emails.
3. Non-essential staff, as designated in emergency preparedness plans, will be notified through routine and emergency communication procedures for staff.
4. The core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention will be adhered to as follows:
 - a. Screening of all who enter the facility for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., temperature checks, questions or observations about signs or symptoms), and denial of entry of those with signs or symptoms.
 - b. Testing will be performed using on-site rapid testing. Anyone with positive results will be denied entry.
 - c. Hand hygiene will be conducted with the preferred use of alcohol-based hand rub.
 - d. A face covering or mask, covering the mouth and nose, will be worn at all times.
 - e. Visits should be conducted using social distancing of at least six feet between persons.
 - i. If during a visit personal contact occurs it should be kept to a minimum.
 - f. Instructional signage throughout the facility and proper visitor education on COVID-19 signs and symptoms, infection control precautions, and other applicable facility practices will be conducted.
 - g. Cleaning and disinfection of highly touched surfaces in the facility and in designated visitation areas after each visit will be performed.
 - h. Staff will adhere to the appropriate use of personal protective equipment (PPE).
 - i. Visitation will be conducted in designated rooms, not resident rooms.
 - j. The facility will conduct resident and staff testing as per current CMS guidance.
 - k. Visitors who are unable to adhere to these principles of COVID-19 infection prevention will not be permitted to visit or will be asked to leave.
5. INDOOR VISITATION will be conducted in a manner that reduces the risk of COVID-19 transmission based on the following guidelines:
 - a. The facility has no new onset of COVID-19 cases in the last 14 days and is not currently conducting outbreak testing.
 - b. The facility will ensure that visitors are to be maintained at the designated visitation area.
 - c. The facility will utilize their county positivity rate as a determinate in conducting indoor visitation.
 - i. Low (<5%) = Visitation will occur according to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and facility policies (beyond compassionate care visits).

- ii. Medium (5%-10%) = Visitation will occur according to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and facility policies (beyond compassionate care visits).
 - iii. High (10%) = Visitation will only occur for compassionate care situations according to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and facility policies.
 - d. No more than two (2) visitors per resident will be permitted.
 - e. Visits will be offset by 30 minutes; no more than four (4) visitors will be in the testing area at the same time.
 - f. Visits will be limited to one (1) hour.
 - g. Any visitor who cannot wear a mask will not be permitted.
 - 1. Infants will need to be in a covered carrier.
6. OUTDOOR VISITATION will be conducted in a manner that reduces the risk of COVID-19 transmission as follows:
- a. Visits will be held outdoors whenever practicable and will be facilitated routinely barring weather conditions, a resident's health status or the facility's outbreak status.
 - b. The facility will have an accessible and safe outdoor space (*designate space*) in which to conduct outdoor visitation.
7. Residents on transmission-based precautions for COVID-19 will be restricted to virtual visits, through windows or in-person for compassionate care situations until the transmission-based precaution is no longer required.
8. Special considerations – All visitors will be tested in accordance to current facility policy.
- a. Health care workers: Healthcare workers will be allowed to come into the facility as long as they meet current CDC guidelines for health care workers. Screening for fever and respiratory symptoms apply in accordance with surveillance procedures.
 - b. Surveyors: Screening for fever and respiratory symptoms along with requesting hand hygiene apply. Inform them of facility policy regarding standard and transmission-based precautions.
 - c. Ombudsman: In-person access may be limited due to infection control concerns and/or transmission of COVID-19, but may not be limited without reasonable cause. The core principles of infection prevention will be adhered to by the ombudsman and if in-person access is not advisable, the facility will arrange for alternative communication with the ombudsman.
 - d. Representatives of protection and advocacy systems, as designated by the state, will be allowed access to the residents both formally and informally, by telephone, mail and in person.
9. Advise any visitors to monitor for signs and symptoms of respiratory illness and report to the facility if symptoms are evident within 14 days after visiting the facility.
10. Resident-to-resident visitation:
- a. Communal activities and dining may occur while adhering to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention (e.g., limited number of people at a table, at least six feet of distance between residents).
 - b. Remind residents to practice social distancing, perform frequent hand hygiene, and wear a mask or face covering.
 - c. Restrict non-affected residents from entering rooms of residents suspected/confirmed to have COVID-19.

Reference:

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. *QSO-20-39-NH: Nursing Home Visitation – COVID-19*.

FAMILY VISITATION CALENDAR

Limit of 2 visitors per resident. Monday – Friday. Any changes are on a case by case basis approved by the Administrator. Visitors need to arrive 20 minutes early to be screened and tested. Visits are for 1 hour. Please list visitor names and resident they are here to see in the appropriate time slot.

DATE: _____

TIME	ROOM 20	ROOM 22
8:30 – 9:30 am		
10:00 – 11:00am		
11:30 – 12:30pm		
1:00 – 2:00 pm		
2:30 – 3:30 pm		
TIME	ROOM 24	ROOM 26
9:00 - 10:00am		
10:30 – 11:30am		
12:00 – 1:00 pm		
1:30 – 2:30 pm		
3:00 – 4:00 pm		

