



Visitation Policy & Procedure

2/1/2023

POLICY:

The following policy and procedure has been developed in conjunction with the current Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines and recommendations as well as the new SB 988 guidelines and requirements. This policy and procedures meets the standards 429.28 (1)d (pursuant to 408.823, F.S.)

PURPOSE:

To ensure that all the employees, residents, and all visitors are aware of our facility policy and procedure. To maintain a safe environment for all staff and residents by avoiding an outbreak of any communicable disease not to exclude corona virus in the facility, by way of following universal precautions and CDC recommended guidelines.

All persons visiting under the age of 18 years must be accompanied by a visiting adult and not the resident. All visitors and third parties must abide by our infection control policy. All visitors ages 5 and up must wear a face mask over their nose and mouth during the time of visitation. Consensual contact between the resident and their loved ones is permitted unless a resident chooses otherwise.

SB 988 states that all hospitals, hospices, and long-term care facilities visitation policies and procedures must allow for in –person visitation in all the following circumstances, unless the resident, client, or patient objects:

- End-of-life situations.
- A resident, client, or patient who was living with family before being admitted to the provider’s care is struggling with the change in environment and lack of in-person family support.
- The resident, client, or patient is making one or more major medical decisions.
- A resident, client, or patient is experiencing emotional distress or grieving the loss of a friend or family member who recently died.
- A resident, client, or patient needs cueing or encouragement to eat or drink which was previously provided by a family member or caregiver.
- A resident, client, or patient who used to talk and interact with others is seldom speaking.
- For hospitals, childbirth, including labor and delivery.
- Pediatric patients.



Essential Caregivers (EC)

- Provide healthcare services and/or assistance with activities of daily living to help maintain or improve the quality of care or quality of life of a facility resident
- Care or service provided by the essential caregiver is included in the plan of care or service plan for the resident
- Activities of daily living include bathing, dressing and eating -- but does not include grooming

Our Residents will be asked if they wish to designate any of the individuals within their circle of support as an Essential and a copy will be kept within their files.

- Maintain the use of PPE while in the building, and maintain effective hand hygiene practices while in the community. If you are going to be designated as an Essential, then the facility will provide Education on Infection Control, and this will be conducted through Infection Control Material, Telephone, Virtual Communication or In-Person prior to assuming the role of an Essential. The Essential Caregiver will be asked to sign a statement stating that they have received such training and information, and will comply with these Infection Control Practices.
- Designated Essential Caregivers will need to undertake, upon arrival at the community, a 'Visitor Screening', which will include the taking of your temperature, and for you to answer several questions related to your health and contact with others. These **MUST** be completed – the staff screening you, does reserve the right to prohibit admission if there are any concerns regarding the health of the visitor to safeguard the wellness of all.
- Designated Essential Caregivers will be asked to work with us on achieving a structured routine for visits, where possible, to ensure consistency, although we do understand that in times of emotional need, this may be flexible, but will need to be agreed with the Administrator.
- In the event that Infection Control Practices are not maintained by the Essential caregiver, then the facility can revoke these roles until such time as the individual is able to comply with Infection Control measures. This will only happen if there has been a failure to mitigate concerns through counseling or training.

All visitors' which includes essential caregiver's guidelines for visitation:

MASKS & PPE ARE ESSENTIAL: All Essential Caregivers & any other visitors will be required to wear a Surgical Mask and other appropriate PPE for the duration of their visit as permitted by the facility. Which will be monitored and overseen by the facility administrator.

IF YOU BECOME SYMPTOMATIC: If you become symptomatic at any point, then we require you to notify the Administrator, and also isolate yourself from the facility as per CDC and local health department requirements. If a staff member becomes positive he or she must remain



quarantined for 7- 14 days and test negative post the 14 days before being allowed to return to work.

INFECTION CONTROL: The facility will provide Education on Infection Control, and this will be conducted through telephone, Virtual Communication or In-Person. Each visitor will be instructed on ensuring to properly wash and or sanitize their hands prior to their visit as they enter the facility. Each visitor will be mandated to have their temperatures checked and if there is a temperature greater than 99.9F, the visitor will not be permitted to visit at that time.

In the event that Infection Control Practices are not maintained by the any visitor, then the facility can revoke the visit until such time as the individual is able to comply with Infection Control measures. This will only happen if there has been a failure to mitigate concerns through counseling or training.

DISTANCING: Social Distancing must be encouraged in regards to other residents in the facility and where it is required for you to complete personal services or provide emotional assistance that requires touch, and then we ask that you follow PPE requirements of wearing Masks, Gloves and Protective Barriers as requested as mandated by the facility for the protection of all parties involved with an emphasis of importance placed on the well- being and health of the residents.

Our Visitation hours for all visitors will be from 9:00am-9:00pm Sunday thru Saturday. If you are an out of town visitor you will be permitted to visit longer as we want you to enjoy your time with your loved one. But, the designated essential caregiver will be provided with 2 hours per day of visitation in addition to other visiting times. We ask that if you are feeling ill, have any form of flulike symptoms and or a fever that you reframe from visiting and placing all others at risk or danger. We ask that you notify the facility administrator Saintaubin at 386 888-0716

REPORTING ILLNESS:

We require that all Visitors including essential caregivers notify us of any symptoms of Covid-19, flulike symptoms at any time, and up to 14 days after a visit to the community. This is so that we can appropriately take steps to ensure the health and wellbeing of all parties. If a resident test positive for covid he or she will be transported to the hospital and will not be able to return until they have been in quarantine for a minimum of 10 days if vaccinated and 14 if not vaccinated and have tested negative for Covid and or any other communicable disease.



No visitors including essential caregivers will be compelled to provide proof of vaccination and immunization status.

EXTERNAL VISITS:

Resident are not restricted from going out with family, friends, loved ones as well as any appointment to a medical professionals office. We encourage that each person will be responsible and ensure the residents safety.

Advice from the CDC – Centers for Disease Control:


The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to the virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:


- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Follow CDC’s recommendations for using a facemask.
 - CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
 - Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- It is imperative that if you suspect, or have cause to suspect symptoms of Coronavirus, then you should immediately seek health care support, notify your manager and follow all health care advices to support your recovery.

SUSPENSION OF VISITATION:

In the event that a visitor of any type is not adhering to the policy and procedure set forth. The facility may suspend the visitation at any given time.



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