

# ONEIDA HEALTH COVID-19 VISITOR RESPONSE PLAN

(Effective 4/13/20)

Effective immediately, all inpatient and resident visitation has been suspended at Oneida Health Hospital and the Oneida Health Rehabilitation and Extended Care facility. There are certain exceptions as required by the New York State Department of Health. Each exception will be denoted by a \* next to the patient type. Refer to the Addendum sheet to this plan for explanation. The following are visitation restrictions specific to our different areas of care:

## **Emergency Department Patients \***

- Visitors are restricted at this time with the following exceptions:
  - a. Pediatric patients (17 and younger) are allowed one visitor
  - b. DDSO patients are allowed one care provider from their residence
  - c. Developmentally Delayed patients are allowed one visitor who can assist that patient as needed
  - d. Critical care patient in the ED will be managed on a case by case basis with one visitor approval determined by the Charge Nurse/ED provider
  - e. Prisoners accompanied by guards are allowed

## **Inpatients \***

- Visitors are restricted at this time

## **Rehabilitation and Extended Care**

- Visitors are restricted at this time

## **For Critically Ill/ End of Life Patients \***

- Case-by-case determination regarding visitation will be made
- Visitation will be coordinated in advance via the nursing unit leadership and/or administrative supervisor
- Coordination will include meeting visitors at entrance of hospital and providing surgical masks for them to wear during the entirety of their visit

## **Lullaby Center Patients/ Obstetrical Patients \***

- The birth coach or partner will be allowed to visit and participate in the birth and will be allowed to continue to visit post-delivery until discharge

## **Pediatric Patients \***

- Pediatric patients (17 and under) will be allowed one visitor at a time

## **Developmentally Disabled Patients \***

- One attendant allowed in the inpatient or procedural setting

### **ASU/ENDO/Wound Care Patients**

- Visitors will be restricted at this time
- Contact information of drivers will be retained and drivers will be asked to remain outside the hospital
- Any patient requiring physical assistance to get into the building for area of care will be allowed one visitor to assist them until an Oneida Health employee is able to assist, at which point the visitor will be asked to wait in their vehicle or return following the appointment

### **Radiology/Laboratory/Cardiac Testing**

- Only the patient receiving testing will be allowed in the building
- Pediatric patients (17 and under) can only be accompanied by one visitor
- Any patient requiring physical assistance to get into the building for area of care will be allowed one visitor to assist them until an Oneida Health employee is able to assist, at which point the visitor will be asked to wait in their vehicle or return following the appointment

### **Quick Care/Lab Draws**

- Only the patient receiving testing will be allowed in the building
- Pediatric patients (17 and under) can only be accompanied by one visitor
- Any patient requiring physical assistance to get into the building for area of care will be allowed one visitor to assist them until an Oneida Health employee is able to assist, at which point the visitor will be asked to wait in their vehicle or return following the appointment

### **Primary Care/Specialty Care**

- No visitors accompanying adult patients
- Pediatric patients (17 and under) will be allowed one parent
- Any patient requiring physical assistance to get into the building for area of care will be allowed one visitor to assist them until an Oneida Health employee is able to assist, at which point the visitor will be asked to wait in their vehicle or return following the appointment

Visitor Response Plan Addendum below



# VISITOR RESPONSE PLAN ADDENDUM

## **Emergency, Inpatient Patients**

For patients for whom a support person has been determined to be essential to the care of the patient (medically necessary) including patients with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD), and patients with cognitive impairments including dementia, one support person at a time as essential to patient care in the emergency room or during hospitalization. For these hospitalized patients, especially with prolonged hospitalizations, the patient or family/caregiver may designate two support people; but only one support person may be present at a time. This support person can be the patient's family, caregiver, or another person they choose. In these settings, the person will be the only support person allowed to be present during the patient's care. Individuals age 70 years or older, are not encouraged to be support persons at this time due to increased risk of COVID-19 infection.

## **Emergency, Inpatient Patients**

For patients in imminent end-of-life situations, the Department considers one family member and/or legal representative at a time as a support person who should be permitted at the patient bedside. The Department defines imminent end-of-life situations as a patient who is actively dying, where death is anticipated within less than 24 hours. The patient and/or family/caregiver may designate up to two support people; but only one support person may be present at a time. In the event the patient is a parent of a minor child, one adult family member and one child may be permitted at the patient bedside. Individuals age 70 years or older, are not encouraged to be support persons at this time due to increased risk of COVID-19 infection.

## **Emergency, Inpatient, Pediatrics, Obstetrics/Gynecology**

The support person of a patient with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 who has been a close contact of the patient has potentially already been exposed to COVID-19. These support persons should:

- Wear a surgical or procedure mask throughout their time in the hospital,
- Practice scrupulous hand hygiene
- Remain in the patient's room except for entrance and exit from the hospital; and
- While in the room, a gown and gloves should be worn to prevent the person's hands or clothes from becoming contaminated. Eye protection (i.e. goggles) should be worn while in the room if available.

If the support person of a patient with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 has not been a close contact of the patient and does not have a history of confirmed COVID-19, the support person should:

- Wear a surgical or procedure mask throughout their time in the hospital,
- Practice scrupulous hand hygiene,
- Remain in the patient's room except for entrance and exit from the hospital, and
- While in the patient's room, a gown and gloves should be worn to prevent the person's hands or clothes from becoming contaminated. Eye protection (i.e. goggles) should be worn while in the room if available.

- Again, in these circumstances the risks of acquiring COVID-19 should be fully explained, so that the patient and support person can make an informed decision of whether or not the support person's presence at the patient bedside is essential to the patient's health.

If the patient does not have confirmed or suspected COVID-19, the support person should:

- Wear a surgical or procedure mask throughout their time in the hospital,
- Practice scrupulous hand hygiene, and
- Remain in the patient's room except for entrance and exit from the hospital.

Hospital staff must screen the support person for symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., fever, sore throat, runny nose, cough, shortness of breath, muscle aches, or diarrhea) and conduct a temperature check prior to entering the clinical area and every twelve hours thereafter for the remainder of their presence at the bedside.

If a support person has confirmed or suspected COVID-19 or presents with or develops symptoms of COVID-19, they should be excluded from the facility.