

**HAMMOND-HENRY HOSPITAL**

<b>STANDARD</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>
<b>LTC INDOOR/OUTDOOR VISITATION FOR RESIDENTS</b>	<b>LONG TERM CARE</b>

**PANDEMIC POLICY:** Hammond-Henry Long Term Care (HHH-LTC) will allow residents to have indoor/outdoor visitation with outer community members (visitors) during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**OBJECTIVE/PURPOSE:** To allow visitation for residents in an improved setting while continuing to assure the safety of all HHH-LTC residents, staff, and community.

**RESPONSIBLE PARTIES:**

- Administration
- Interdisciplinary Team
  - Medical Director
  - LTC and Activities staff

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Indoor/Outdoor visitation for residents and visitors will be allowed if the following guidelines are met:
  - a. All visitors will be screened prior to entering the HHH-LTC unit, which includes inside the main building and outside at the fenced in HHH-LTC courtyard.
    - i. Screening will be handled in accordance with IDPH, CDC, and CMS oversight, by East Entrance personnel or HHH-LTC staff.
    - ii. A mark will signify that the visitor has passed the screening process.
  - b. Residents may have up to 2 visitors at a time.
    - i. Requests for greater than 2 visitors will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
  - c. All visitors must be willing and able to keep a mask or face shield on during the entirety of the session.
    - i. Masks or face shields are always required for visitors within HHH-LTC
  - d. 6-foot social distancing is recommended while visiting your resident
  - e. Visitors must keep 6 feet of social distance between them and other residents that they are not visiting.
  - f. All visitation in the courtyard must remain in the area designated for outside visitors at any time that there is another resident in the courtyard – see signage.
  - g. Only one resident can have visitors in the courtyard at a time.
  - h. If visitation slots are full, or residents/visitors elect to leave the HHH-LTC campus, visitors can check a resident out of HHH-LTC with permission of the resident if mentally able to do so, or with permission of the Power of Attorney (POA) when not mentally able to do so.
  - i. Visits will be scheduled on a first come, first serve basis with the Activities Department personnel: 309-944-9155
  - j. Hand washing will be required pre and post visitation.

- k. If there are any cases of COVID-19, or persons under investigation for symptoms concerned to be COVID-19, within the LTC, all visitations may be postponed based on most recent guidance from IDPH, CDC, and CMS.
  - l. If a resident is on transmission-based precautions, visitation may need to be virtual or through window until precautions are discontinued in accordance with IDPH, CDC, and CMS guidance.
  - m. Weather concerns may require courtyard visitation activities to be postponed and are allowed at the discretion of HHH-LTC nursing and management personnel.
  - n. If the number of visitors exceeds room or unit tolerance for social distancing, visitors may be asked to leave.
2. Residents
- a. All residents are screened daily for COVID-19 symptoms and a log will be kept at the nurse's station.
    - i. Any concerning symptoms related or unrelated to COVID-19 may cause nursing or activities personnel to postpone visitation in accordance with IDPH, CDC, and CMS guidance.
  - b. It is recommended that all residents wear a facemask or shield during the visitation unless medically incapable.
    - i. Masks have been provided to residents that have asked for one and are available upon request.
  - c. Residents will perform hand hygiene before/after visitation.
  - d. Unvaccinated residents (residents who are not 2 weeks post final vaccine dose) may require further oversight, precautions, and potentially quarantine dependent on the type of visitation or check out activity that occurs. This is left to the discretion of HHH-LTC nursing and management, and will be done in accordance with IDPH, CDC, and CMS guidance.
3. Visitors
- a. Visitors will be screened upon arrival, temperature will be taken, and they will be required to perform hand hygiene.
  - b. Any positive or concerning answers to screening questions or temperatures at/above 100 degrees will result in cancellation of the visit until the visitor is symptom and fever free for 72 hours.
  - c. All visitors will be required to wear a mask for the entirety of their visitation. Social distancing is always recommended while visiting a resident and required in regard to other residents that are not a part of that visit.
  - d. Unvaccinated visitors will be offered a Covid-19 test to further protect their resident.
4. Failure to comply with any of the above guidance may result in the inability of the resident or visitor to continue the visitation or have future visitations.
5. Surfaces occupied or touched by visitors will be wiped down prior to subsequent visitations to the best of staff's abilities.
6. If a resident leaves the facility with visitors or staff:
- a. Vaccinated residents will not need to follow quarantine upon return but will be observed for 14 days to assure no symptom onset.
  - b. Unvaccinated residents may require transmission-based precautions, especially if the visit is for an overnight, in accordance with IDPH, CDC, and CMS guidance.

**SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES:**

1. If a resident or visitor cannot follow the guidelines listed above, that resident and/or visitor will lose the ability to participate in indoor/outdoor visitations and the resident may be placed on isolation precautions to assure the safety of others.
2. For special occasions and groups larger than 2 visitors, the Activities Department must be contacted to reserve appropriate space and undergo special considerations. 309-944-9155

**OUTCOME:** Improved quality of visitation will occur while also assuring infection control and safety will be sustained for all residents, staff, and community members.

**REFERENCES:**

<https://www.illinois.gov/hfs/SiteCollectionDocuments/DPHUpdatedInterimGuidanceIncorporatingCOVID19VaccinationRevised03192021.pdf>

<http://dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/LTC%20visitation%20guidance%20final%2006.18.20.pdf>

<https://dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/CMS%20Phases%20and%20Tiered%20Mitigation.pdf>

<https://www.mcknights.com/news/breaking-cms-eases-nursing-home-visitation-rules/>

<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/cms-updates-nursing-home-guidance-revised-visitation-recommendations>

Covid-19 Question and Answer Session for LTC and Congregate Residential Settings and LTC Guidance for Covid-19. 5/7/21 IDPH webinar.