

Coronavirus-19 Administrative Directive

Visitor Restrictions: General

March 14, 2020 11 AM

Effective Immediately

Capital Health has an organized approach to meeting the needs of our community regarding Coronavirus-19. Our protocols follow the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH).

At this time, out of an abundance of precaution to protect our patients and prevent Coronavirus-19 transmission, we are discouraging visitation of inpatients.

Visitor Requirements for All Areas

- Visitors must not be ill, or display signs of illness (e.g. coughing, fever)
- Visitors must be age 17 or older
- Visitors must not have a travel history to current CDC Zone 3 regions (currently China, Iran, Europe, South Korea) within the past 14 days.

General Inpatient Visitation

Understanding that visitation is discouraged, patients may select to have **up to two visitors** who are designated and who will receive ID bands that will allow them access to visitation.

Visitation on inpatient medical/surgical and critical care units is limited at both hospitals to between **11AM and 8PM:**

The nurse manager on each floor has the authority to over ride this limitation on visitors at his/her discretion based on extraordinary circumstances to assure compassion for patients and visitors.

Observation Unit Visitation

Observation Unit visitors are discouraged unless the patient is a minor, frail elderly, or acutely ill. In which case, the patient may select one person to visit and who will remain with the patient.

Observation Unit visitation is limited to **11AM to 8PM daily.**

Pediatric Inpatient and NICU

Patients less than 18 years of age may have up to two designated visitors between the hours of 11 AM and 8PM. **Outside those hours, one of the two designated visitors may remain with the patient at all times.**

Obstetrics

Patients may select to have up to two visitors who are designated and who will receive ID bands that will allow them access to visitation **at all hours**. One of these orange visitation bands will be designated for the support person who is banded with the child's information (i.e. **maximum number of visitors two** and not three).

Outpatient Areas Including the Emergency Department

No visitors are permitted in the perioperative treatment areas. Exceptions include patients who are less than 18 years of age. In which case, the family may select one person to remain with the patient for the minimal appropriate duration.

In all other outpatient treatment areas, patients may select one person to visit and who will remain with the patient at staff discretion. Visitor requirements for the perioperative and outpatient treatment areas are the same as the restrictions noted above.

Volunteer Patient Entertainers that have patient contact (e.g. pet therapy, clowns) are not permitted at this time.

Further restrictions and requirements for visitation of patients who are potential or confirmed Coronavirus-19 are outlined in a separate Administrative Directive.