

VISITOR GUIDELINES (SNF)

This document is provided to visitors upon entrance to the center and documents education provided.

- ◀ Visitors are required to complete the pre-screening process upon arrival to the center.
- ◀ Outdoor visits are preferred when the patient and/or visitor are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
- ◀ Indoor visitation will be allowed for all patients regardless of vaccination status
- ◀ Indoor visitation during an outbreak investigation will be allowed. Visitors should be aware of the potential risk of visiting during an outbreak investigation and adhere to the core principles of infection prevention. Patients and visitors should wear face masks during visits, regardless of vaccination status and visits should occur in the patient's room.
- ◀ Visitors must agree to answer all screening questions and have temperature read. If the visitor triggers for any screening questions or has had a positive viral test for COVID-19 or symptoms of COVID-19, or currently meet the criteria for quarantine, they will not be allowed to enter the center to reduce the risk of spread/exposure to COVID-19.
- ◀ Visitors are encouraged but not required to be tested or vaccinated prior to visit. If the visitor declines to disclose their vaccination status, the visitor should wear a face mask at all times.
- ◀ Upon Arrival:
 - ❖ Wear a mask that covers the nose and mouth during visit. If you don't have a mask, one will be provided.
 - ❖ Sign in on the *Visitor Log* attesting that you have read and reviewed the visitor guidelines and COVID-19 education and agree to comply.
 - ❖ Comply with screening process, including temperature check.
 - ❖ Complete hand hygiene.
- ◀ Patients and visitors, regardless of vaccination status, should wear face masks and physically distance at all times if the center's county COVID-19 community level of transmission is substantial to high.
- ◀ If the patient and all their visitors are fully vaccinated and the patient is not moderately or severely immunocompromised, the patient can choose not to wear a face mask and have close contact (including touch) with their visitor. Both the patient and visitor should perform hand hygiene before and after the visit. Visitors should otherwise maintain physical distance from other patients and staff in the center.
- ◀ Remain in the visitation area or patient room during entire visit and limit movement throughout the center.
- ◀ No smoking is allowed.
- ◀ Avoid touching your face or adjusting your mask. If you note that this has occurred, sanitize your hands using the sanitizing station.
- ◀ Visitors may bring food/drink for the patient if allowed per state guideline. Food and drinks must meet diet consistency/texture per physician order and cannot be shared.
- ◀ Monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 such as temperature, fever/chills, cough, shortness of breath, fever, nausea, vomiting, headache, runny nose/congestion, fatigue, muscle/body aches, and new loss of taste or smell for 14-days after your visit and notify the center if signs or symptoms develop or if you receive confirmation that you have tested positive for COVID-19 or if you receive confirmation that you have been exposed to another individual who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- ◀ **If observed to not follow visitor guidelines, staff may provide redirection or terminate visit to reduce the risk of exposure or transmission of COVID-19.**

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COVID-19 is thought to spread mainly through close contact from person-to-person. Some people without symptoms may be able to spread the virus. We are still learning about how the virus spreads and the severity of illness it causes.

The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.

- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about six (6) feet).
- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks.
- These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
- COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.

How easily a virus spreads from person-to-person can vary. Some viruses are highly contagious, like measles, while other viruses do not spread as easily. Another factor is whether the spread is sustained, which means it goes from person-to-person without stopping.

The virus that causes COVID-19 is spreading very easily and sustainably between people. Information from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic suggests that this virus is spreading more efficiently than influenza, but not as efficiently as measles, which is highly contagious. In general, **the more closely a person interacts with others and the longer that interaction, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread.**

It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by **touching a surface or object that has the virus on it** and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes. This is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads, but we are still learning more about how this virus spreads.

The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. You can take steps to slow the spread.

- [Maintain good social distance](#) (about six (6) feet). This is very important in preventing the spread of COVID-19.
- [Wash your hands](#) often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- [Routinely clean and disinfect](#) frequently touched surfaces.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a [mask](#) when around others.
- Get vaccinated.