Restricted Visiting Policy:

To protect our staff, patients, and community during the outbreak of COVID-19, visitor restrictions are in effect. Routine visiting is limited in UW Medicine hospitals until the transmission of COVID-19 is no longer a threat to our patients, staff and community.

Visitors will be screened at specified entry points for symptoms\(^1\) of respiratory illness. Visitors should stay in the patient’s room except when arriving or departing the facility. Only asymptomatic visitors will be allowed into hospital facilities based on the parameters outlined below:

- No visitors under the age of 16
  
  Each patient may have 1 visitor who must wear a mask in accordance with the Required and Extended Use Masking Policy. Visitation will be limited by facility visiting hours and policies.

- Patients who are under the age of 18 may have one visitor, or parents or guardians

- Laboring obstetric patients will be allowed 2 healthy support persons with them during labor, 2 hours after delivery only 1 support person will be able to remain at the bedside and the second person be required to leave the hospital. See also: Perinatal and NICU Visitor Restriction Policy

- Patients who are at the end-of-life may have 2 visitors.
  
  o End-of-life is defined by a patient who is highly likely to die in the coming days and is not restricted to patients on a comfort care pathway.
  o visitors must stay in the room for the duration of each visit
  o Each unit manager has the discretion to limit the duration of the visit based on the clinical scenario.
  o Visits from a minor are permissible if accompanied by a parent or guardian and approved by the care team.
  o The Nursing Supervisor will ensure appropriate application of the policy when there is concern or disagreement among members of the care team.

- patients who need a caregiver for safety because of their mental, developmental status, or for their disability such as blindness and/or hearing.

- Patients who require a home caregiver to be trained may have 1 visitor in addition to the caregiver

- Community based care providers who are involved in the care of the patient may visit in addition to the patient’s 1 visitor for support and care continuity.

- Members of the spiritual community may visit patients in addition to 1 visitor

- Visitors may not remove any supplies or equipment from the medical center. Notify a supervisor immediately if observed.

- Visitor restriction policy applies to UW Medicine employees who have family members in the hospital.

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\(^1\) Symptoms: headache, fever, sore throat, shortness of breath, cough, myalgias, loss of sense of smell and/or taste, chills
• No visitors will be allowed in rooms of Persons Under Investigation (PUIs) or COVID-19 positive patients except in the following circumstances:
  
  o Any COVID positive patient at end of life

  o Laboring patients who are COVID positive at UWMC campuses may have 1 asymptomatic support person to remain when the following conditions are met:
    1. The support person must remain masked in the mother’s room with PPE on at all times.
    2. The support person will not have the ability come and go; this person will remain in the mother’s room for the entirety of the mother’s hospital stay.
    3. Support person will be screened by professional nurse personnel for wellness prior to approval to remain with patient.
    4. If a patient declines COVID testing, visitor restrictions will be the same as those patients who are COVID positive.

  o Exclusions for support persons of COVID positive mothers:
    1. COVID positive pregnant antepartum patients may not have a support person
    2. COVID positive pregnant patients may not have a support person in the operating room for a Cesarean delivery

  o See also: Newborn and NICU Visitor Restriction Policy

• No other visitors will be allowed in the medical center at this time. Any exceptions to this policy must be cleared by the clinical area Administrator, Director, AOC or Chief Nursing Officer