

Guidelines for Visitation for Lifespan Physician Group Practices

Rev. 06.05.2020

I. **On Hospital Campus:** Follow the most current hospital visitor policy posted on Lifespan's Covid website.

II. **Off Hospital Campus:**

Approved Visitors

- An official service animal or a legal guardian who has proof of guardianship for an incapacitated patient.
- A visitor who is instrumental to the patient's care (patient with physical, mental, or communication impairment).
- Provider request that one (1) person be allowed to accompany the patient for discussion of a new diagnosis, plan of care, procedure prep, or other difficult conversation. Provider is to notify the manager. Manager will make front desk aware that this patient has an approved visitor.

Screening Questions

1. Do you have a fever (Temp $\geq 100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$ or report of feeling feverish), cold, cough, sore throat, difficulty breathing, or GI symptoms?
2. Do you have chills, headache, or muscle pain?
3. Do you have a loss of smell, reduced ability to smell or detect odors, or a reduced or distorted sense of taste?
4. Have you tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days?
5. Have you had contact in the last 14 days with a person who tested positive for the virus, is currently being tested, or has been placed on home quarantine by the Department of Health?

Note: Perform contactless temperature check when screening questions cannot be reliably answered.

Screening

- Pre-visit confirmation call screenings are encouraged for all patient appointments. If a patient screens positive, they are to be triaged by clinical staff or provider to determine further action steps.
 - Offices are encouraged to provide specific instructions regarding visitors when calling to confirm the appointment, and do not have to allow a visitor if not necessary.
 - We encourage patients to avoid bringing children unless the child is the patient.
- Patients and visitors are screened upon arrival.
 - If a patient screens positive to any of the screening questions, the patient should be isolated, and the practice should follow the Outpatient Algorithm approved by infection control. <https://intranet.lifespan.org/ncov>
 - If a visitor screens positive to any of the screening questions, they will not be allowed to enter the practice even if wearing a mask. They will be asked to wait in the car.
 - At the discretion of the provider, visitors can video or audio conference into the appointment discussion.
- Give a screening sticker. Write date and staff member's initials on sticker. Ask patient/visitor to wear sticker.
 - **BLUE** screening sticker for patients
 - **RED** screening sticker for visitors
 - Order stickers through Office Services using the Covid cost center. <https://intranet.lifespan.org/department-sites/environmental-central-laundry-and-office-services-rhode-island-hospital/lifespan-office-services-requisition-form>

PPE

- Patients and visitors are required to wear a face mask at all times during the visit.
- Patient and visitors are asked to perform hand hygiene.

Interpreters & Vendors

- Treat as a visitor and follow above guidelines.

Residents & Students

- Residents are considered Lifespan employees. They are aware (and should be reminded on their first day) that by coming to work, they are agreeing to the employee attestation statement.
- Medical students: The person in charge of the student during a rotation reviews the self-screening policy on the first day of the rotation.