

SGCMH VISITATION GUIDELINES

(8/9/2021)

Our patient care philosophy depends greatly on engaging families to be part of the healing process. However, due to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus), we must take extra steps to protect our patients, staff, visitors, and our community. We recognize that many of our patients have weakened immune systems and are deemed high risk. While the risk of COVID exposure is nominal, it may exist. Please do not visit if you are not feeling well. Therefore, we have put in place the following guidelines as education and best practice.

EXPECTATIONS WHILE IN OUR FACILITY;

- **Wear a face covering** – If a visitor does not have a mask, SGCMH shall provide a surgical mask to be worn during the entire visit.
- **Screening** – If you are not here seeking medical care, we ask that you stay at home if you are ill. Access to our facility may be denied if a visitor presents with COVID related symptoms or declines to follow infection control practices including wearing a face cover and hand hygiene.
- **Social distancing** – Please practice social distancing during your visit.
- **Children – Children under the age of 18 shall not be allowed.**
- **Limited access** – Visits shall be limited to only individual patient rooms. We respectfully ask visitors to promptly exit the building at the conclusion of their visit and not unnecessarily access other areas of our facility.
- **Hand hygiene** – Use hand sanitizer prior to entering and upon exiting a patient room. We encourage you to wash your hands frequently.

EXPECTATIONS AFTER YOUR VISIT;

- For a period of 14 days practice self-monitoring and immediately report any COVID like symptoms to your primary care physician.
- Continue to practice appropriate hand hygiene including the use of hand sanitizer and frequent hand washing.

Visitors will be allowed based upon the guidelines listed below. Additional visitors may be asked to leave. Visitation shall not be granted for those patients who are COVID positive. Inpatient visitation hours are from 8a – 8p. **Provisions shall be granted to allow greater access for the visitation of patients who are socially isolated, critically ill or, on comfort care.**

- **Med Surg, Obstetrics and Oncology** – **Patients shall be allowed one (1) designated visitor.**
- **Emergency Department** – **Visitation shall be restricted with the exception of one (1) designated individual allowable for extenuating circumstances such as patients requiring assistance with understanding of instructions, mobility, a minor patient, or severe illness/injury.**
- **Outpatient areas (including, Diagnostic Imaging, Surgery, and Physician Clinics)** – **Visitors shall be restricted with the exception of one (1) designated individual if the patient requires assistance or receiving an OB ultrasound. A designated visitor for patients undergoing surgical care shall be evaluated based on the patient's need.**

SGCMH will regularly review and update our visitor policy as needed, which may include the addition of more restrictive guidelines. Please inquire if you have questions pertaining to our COVID visitation policy. If you have any concerns you may direct them to our Quality Department by phone at 573-883-4430 or via e-mail at HParker@SGCMH.org. We make every effort to protect our community and appreciate your patience and understanding.

