

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL PATIENTS AND VISITORS:

VMH Healthcare COVID-19 Modified Visitation Policy

Effective October 19, 2020

Vernon Memorial Healthcare continues to evolve our COVID-19 precautions to ensure a safe place to work and receive care. We are updating our guidelines for visitors, limiting our visitation policy related to our hospitals, clinics, emergency departments, and assisted livings.

Hospital Departments

The following visitors and guests will be permitted:

- End-of-life care or end-of-life decision-making. For these situations, two visitors will be permitted.
- One parent or caregiver of pediatric patients as long as they are not symptomatic.
- One visitor inclusive of a professional support person or post-partum helper of a patient in the labor & delivery and post-partum units.
- Person serving as surrogate decision maker for a patient
- Person in an official governmental function
- One visitor to accompany patients for hospital discharge.
- One visitor for patients undergoing emergency surgery.
- Visitors who have been asked by the patient's care team to be a part of scheduled family training for patients with rehabilitation needs.

Clinics

The following visitors and guests will be permitted:

- One parent or caregiver of pediatric patients as long as they are not symptomatic.
- Person serving as surrogate decision maker for a patient
- Person in an official governmental function
- Adult patients requiring special assistance are limited to only one (1) visitor, in the capacity of "support person", all others will not be permitted to enter—support persons must be 16 years of age or older

Assisted Living

The following will be permitted:

- One visitor, masked, and screened prior to entry will be allowed when needed to support and manage resident stress given other changes occurring. Outdoor (when weather permits) visits remain encouraged.
- Family, friends and loved ones should use electronic devices and apps to keep in contact with patients whenever possible. (e.g. phones, FaceTime, Skype, etc.)

This situation is evolving daily, and we appreciate your patience and support as we work through these complex decisions. Ultimately, all restrictions that are being put in place are for the safety of you, our patients, and the communities we serve.

Stay updated on VMH COVID-19 preparedness updates by visiting www.vmh.org or following us on Facebook