

# COVID-19 visitor restrictions

At Edward-Elmhurst Health, we are committed to providing a safe, seamless, and personal experience for our patients, families and team members. Because of the rise in COVID-19 cases, we have made the difficult decision to restrict visitors in all of our locations. Our visitor/ Care Partner policy that follows is based on public health guidelines and is subject to change.

- **No visitors will be allowed in the hospital or other settings until further notice.**
- Adult patients with an appointment or visiting any of our physician offices, ambulatory care centers, emergency departments, or immediate cares must come alone.
- Companions or Care Partners that remain onsite must wait in their vehicle.
- All public areas of our buildings including cafes, coffee shops, gift shops and common waiting areas will be closed to patients and approved Care Partners.
- Exceptions for approved Care Partners will be taken into consideration.

## Exceptions for specific patient populations:

### Pediatric Patients

- Minors (under age 18) at most outpatient appointments or Immediate Care visits may be accompanied by one parent or legal guardian.
- Guidelines for pediatric office visits vary. Parents should contact the specific office with questions about their child's appointment.
- Pediatric patients, including patients on the general Pediatric Unit, PICU (Pediatric Intensive Care Unit), NICU (Newborn Intensive Care Unit), Special Care Nursery and patients under the age of 18 in the Emergency Department or inpatient units may have two parents/legal guardians present.

### Intensive Care Unit

- Visitors are not allowed in ICU.
- The need for visitors based on extenuating circumstances such as end of life or a significant change in status will be determined by staff at the point of care.

### Mother Baby/Labor and Delivery

- Patients may have one Care Partner.
- If the patient is diagnosed with COVID-19 or awaiting test results, the Care Partner must remain in the patient's room for the duration of the visit.

### Extenuating Circumstances

- If the visit or appointment cannot be completed without the presence of a Care Partner because of physical, mental or other limitations, an exception may be made.
- These exceptions will be managed by the leadership of each department.

## Any Care Partners who have been approved due to extenuating circumstances must meet the following requirements:

- Pass a visitor screening upon entry.
- No active COVID infection.
- No exposure to COVID in the last 14 days.
- Comply with all Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), physical distancing requirements and hand hygiene. Must wear a mask covering their nose and mouth at all times. **Any Care Partners or visitors refusing to comply will be asked to leave.**
- Remain in the patient's room at all times.

If you have any questions about our visitor policy or if you would like to discuss a potential exception, please direct your request to the care area where your loved one is being treated. Exceptions will be considered by the clinical leadership of that area.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our patients, families, team members and communities safe during these challenging times.