

Facility Visitor Policy

Guidelines

Effective **October 27, 2021**, Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center has adopted new visitation guidelines that continue to provide ongoing protection for our patients, employees, and physicians while recognizing the key role caregivers play in the quality of care and outcomes of patients.

Visitors aged 18 and older will be allowed to visit for non COVID-19 patients in the hospital under the following circumstances:

Inpatient hospitalization:

- One visitor (person) at a time will be allowed during the day and overnight.

COVID Positive hospitalization:

- Visitation may be allowed under certain circumstances unless restricted by a physician's order. To learn more, [please click here](#).

End of life: In extraordinary end-of-life situations, non-COVID-19 patients will be limited to two adult visitors at a time. COVID-19 positive patients or Patients Under Investigation (PUI) will be limited to one visitor. Exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis and must be approved by hospital administration.

Other circumstances may be considered on a case-by-case basis and must be approved by hospital administration.

PLEASE NOTE: All waiting areas will be at limited capacity to promote social distancing.

Procedural Areas and the Emergency Department:

- One visitor (person) will be allowed during the patient's ED visit. This person must be the same person throughout the visit. For COVID positive patients visitation may be restricted per the physician's order.
- One visitor (person) during the day of a procedure until the patient leaves the pre-procedural area. During the time of the patient's procedure, the Visitor may be required to leave the facility and will receive a call to return post-procedure.

We also encourage visitors to remain closely connected to their loved ones through virtual means, including Skype, FaceTime, and/or phone.

Guidance for Visitors:

- Must be 18 years old or older unless approved by hospital administration
- Must pass the screening at the designated entrances which includes:
 - No COVID-19 symptoms per CDC guidelines
 - Have not traveled to infected areas with COVID-19 in the past 14 days
 - Have not been in contact with someone with COVID-19 in the past 14 days
- Must frequently wash their hands, limit interactions with others, practice social distancing, are restricted to only the locations designated by the facility, and must limit time outside of the patient's room.
- Will be required to wear a well-fitted mask during their hospital visit per CDC guidelines. If a visitor or single designated caregiver does not have a mask, the facility will provide one.
- Religious Counselors are allowed to visit at any time pending they meet screening requirements and wearing of personal protective equipment per hospital guidelines.

Until the COVID-19 pandemic has subsided:

- Healthcare workers, visitors, and patients with fever, cough, sore throat, or other COVID-19 like symptoms are not permitted in any area of the hospital, unless seeking care.
- Anyone who has traveled to high-risk areas for COVID-19 or had contact with a person known to be infected with COVID-19 in the past 14 days are not permitted to visit any area of the hospital, unless seeking care.
- All patients and approved visitors are requested to wear a mask while in the hospital.
- Staff will escort patients to and from appointments if needed. Friends/family will drop patients off and pick them up from the front lobby.

Visitors will not be allowed:

- Who refuse to wear a mask per hospital guidelines.
- Who refuse to be screened prior to entry.
- Are under the age of 18, unless approved by hospital administration.
- Who have a medical condition that prevents them from being able to appropriately wear a mask.
- Who have a temperature or who answer yes to any of the screening questions.
- When the patient's attending physician has restricted visitation due to in-person visitation with that patient may lead to the transmission of an infectious agent that poses a serious community health risk. In the event this restriction is in place daily communication to the authorized individual the patient has identified will occur. Communication will include the patient's condition and estimated date and time of discharge.