

Effective **May 1, 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:

- One visitor at a time will be allowed during the patient's hospitalization.
- One visitor at a time will be allowed during the patient's ED Visit.
- One visitor 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.
- A legally authorized representative of the patient.

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 only (for a maximum of one hour). 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

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

Guidance for Visitors who meet the visitation criteria:

- Must be 18 years old or older.
- 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 10 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.

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 in the past 10 days 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:

- For COVID-19 positive or Patients Under Investigation (PUI) including dedicated COVID-19 hospital units.
- Exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis and must be approved by hospital administration.
- Based on community prevalence and facility space considerations, slight variations may exist at the hospital.