

Sentara Potomac Hospital Visitation Guidelines Job Aid

Dear Patients and Visitors,

Sentara Potomac Hospital believes that visitors are therapeutic to a patient's care and well-being and encourages visitor participation during hospitalization. Our general visitation hours are from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. in most units. Children can visit if they are in good health and accompanied by an adult at all times.

For safety and security reasons, we allow no more than two people to visit at a time. Please check with your nurse, as this number may vary. For patient and community safety further restrictions may apply during influenza and communicable disease outbreaks.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR VISITATION AFTER 6 P.M. After 6 p.m., all visitors need to check in with Security in the main lobby or the Garden Level's Hylton Education Center area to obtain a visitor badge. Visitors need to have photo identification in their possession to receive a visitor badge. The visitor badge must be visible at all times while in the facility.

One adult may stay overnight but must be checked in through security and obtain a visitor badge by 9 p.m. Overnight visitors are permitted only in the patient's room or in the patient's floor visitor lounge. Overnight visitors will not be permitted re-entry to the hospital after 9 p.m.

Visitors may be asked to leave during change of shift and physician rounds to maintain confidentiality and privacy unless otherwise requested by the patient. Visitors may also be asked to leave for other reasons based on the discretion of the healthcare team.

In order to enhance the quality of care, specific visiting hours and criteria have been established for the following areas:

Intensive Care and Intermediate Care: Visitation by immediate family only (ages 12 and over) from 12 noon to 3 p.m. and 5 to 8 p.m. One adult is permitted to stay overnight until 8 a.m. Please see charge nurse for details.

Pediatrics: Visitation by parents is allowed 24 hours a day (one parent may remain overnight). Siblings accompanied and supervised by an adult are allowed between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. Please see charge nurse for details.

Post Partum: Fathers have open visitation. Immediate family may visit from 12 noon to 9 p.m. Siblings of infant may visit between 12 noon and 5 p.m. for 30 minutes when accompanied and supervised by an adult. All other adult visitors are allowed two at a time between 6 and 9 p.m. Please see charge nurse for details.

Hospice: Visiting hours are 24 hours a day. Visitors may at times be limited in the patient's room. Please see charge nurse for details.

Emergency Department: Visiting hours are 24-hours and limited to 2 visitors. For health reasons, we discourage children from visiting the Emergency Department but understand that this is not always possible. Please ask for more specific guidelines when visiting the Emergency Department.



Visitation Job Aid: SPH Guidelines

Effective Date: January 2011