



Visiting Rules

I. PURPOSE

Methodist Hospital of Chicago will not restrict, limit or otherwise deny visitation privileges on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability.

II. POLICY

A. It is recommended that visitors be limited to two per patient at anytime. All family members and visitors must check in at the security desk and obtain a pass before proceeding to a patient care area. Family and visitors should always wash their hands each time they enter and leave a patient room or unit.

B. The patient or patient's designated representative, in conjunction with the registered nurse and healthcare team, may take visitation limitations. Family and visitors will not be denied access to the patient without legitimate reason, as determined by the hospital. These may include but not be limited to;

1. Clinical and emotional needs of patients, such as exhaustion, overstimulation, or marked increase in agitation.
2. Family members or visitor's inability to meet hospital infection control policies.
3. A limitation as requested by the patient or patient's designated representative.
4. Patient, family, visitor or employee safety issues.
5. Visitors or family members with prohibitive legal documentation, such as restraining orders, will not be allowed to visit.
6. Family members or visitors will be denied access if they appear impaired (alcohol/drugs) or if they refuse to relinquish items.

C. Children

1. Children will always be accompanied by an adult other than the patient.
2. Visits by children younger than 12 years of age will be coordinated with the Director of Nursing or designee.
3. Children must comply with all isolation and/or infection control precautions.
4. Children with communicable diseases will not be permitted on hospital units or patient rooms.

D. Operating Room

1. No visitor will be given access to the operating suites.
2. Visitors will only be allowed access to post op recovery room if the child is patient.
3. Medical professional will be provided access as per policy

E. Behavioral Medicine Units

1. Visiting hours are established to maintain the therapeutic milieu.
2. All visitors and purse/packages are subject to search by BMU staff, as per policy.
3. Visitors may be denied access if it is detrimental to patient care.
4. Visitors must be 18 years or older.

F. Patients have the right, subject to his or her consent, to receive visitors whom he or she designates, whether a spouse, domestic partner (including same sex domestic partner), another family member or a friend, and his or her right to withdraw or deny such as consent at any time.

G. All visitors designated by the patient will enjoy visitation privileges that are no more restrictive than those that immediate family members would enjoy.