



**POLICY TITLE: One Brooklyn Health (OBH) System Visitor Policy**

**DEPARTMENTS:** All Departments & Staff

**CODE #: OBHS IC 1.0**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/9/2020**

**ORIGINATOR: Infection Control/Patient Care Services**

**DATE REVISED : 4/2022**

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**DATE REVIEWED:**

**PURPOSE:**

This policy was established to ensure safe visitation practices that protect our patients and staff.

**POLICY:**

One Brooklyn Health (OBH) welcome visitors to the Hospital and Ambulatory Care Services. All visitors are required to follow the facility screening and masking requirements. OBH staff will provide a surgical mask or KN95 mask upon presentation.

All visitors must show proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a negative COVID PCR test taken within 72 hours of the hospital visit.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. All visitors and patients must wear a surgical mask that cover their nose and mouth while in the Hospital or Ambulatory Care Services.
2. For visitors, two (2) visitors per patient at a time (12 years or older) with a maximum of four (4) visitors/per patient/per day is allowed unless otherwise indicated in this policy. The Hospital reserves the right to make exceptions to this rule.
3. Visitors must undergo symptom screening and temperature checks upon entering the facility. The visitation will be denied if visitor reports:
  - Significant COVID-19 exposure during the prior 10 days.
  - Symptoms during the prior 10 days.
  - Have a temperature equal to, or greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit.
4. Patients undergoing same day procedures may be accompanied to the facility by a companion and that companion may remain with the patient through the initial intake process; and may rejoin the patient for the discharge process.
5. Visitors may not be present during procedures and in recovery room EXCEPT for pediatrics, childbirth, and patients with an intellectual, developmental, or other cognitive disability.
6. Visitors are provided with and must wear appropriate personal protective equipment (i.e., surgical mask, isolation gown, gloves, face shield/goggles, etc.) as recommended by DOH and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
7. Visitors will be advised by the health care provider how to perform meticulous hand hygiene and how to wear the PPE and must adhere to such procedures.
8. Visitors who fail to wear a surgical mask and other PPE will be asked to leave the facility.



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9. Once in the facility, visitors must remain in the patient's room throughout the visit except when directed by hospital staff.
10. Name and contact information for visitors, the date(s) of their visits, and the name of the patient(s) visited are maintained in an electronic format by facility.
11. Facility may adjust visitation policies depending on the prevalence of COVID-19 in the county based on the DOH and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
12. Regardless of the Hospital the following apply:
  - a. Exceptions for end of life and/or patients with cognitive or developmental impairments or at the discretion of hospital leadership.
  - b. Visitors with respiratory and/or the following symptoms will not be allowed to visit:
    2. Fever
    3. Cough
    4. Trouble breathing
    5. Skin rash
    6. Vomiting
    7. Diarrhea

**General visitation guidelines for all ADULT patients on inpatient units:**

1. **Medical-Surgical Units** Visiting Hours are site specific and as follows:
  - Brookdale Hospital – 2:00pm-8:00pm
  - Interfaith Medical Center – 12noon-8:00pm
  - Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center Inpatient Rehabilitation Center – 12noon-8:00pm
2. **Adult Intensive Care Units** Visiting Hours are site specific and as follows:
  - Brookdale Hospital – 2:00pm-3:00pm and 5:00pm-6:00pm
  - Interfaith Medical Center – 12noon-8:00pm



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3. **Brookdale Maternal Child Units** Visiting Hours are from 2:00pm to 8:00pm:
  - Fathers/Significant others have additional access to visit, with permission of the Nurse Manager.
  - Two (2) visitors allowed. One support person (i.e., spouse, partner, parent, grandparent, sibling, or other person of their choice) and a doula if requested may accompany the patient throughout labor, delivery, and the postpartum period, including recovery, until discharge home.
  - Visitation on post-partum units is from 2:00pm to 8:00pm daily. Visitation is limited to four (4) hours per day for up to two (2) visitors at a time, unless otherwise approved by the clinical team.
  
4. **Brookdale Pediatric Inpatients Units and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)** Visiting Hours are from 2:00pm to 8:00pm
  - Two (2) Visitors (parents/grandparents), legal guardian or a surrogate visitor per pediatric and NICU patient are allowed at the bedside at a time during hospital visiting hours
  - One adult parent/legal guardian or a surrogate visitor may be allowed at bedside 24 hours a day in all pediatric units. One adult parent/legal guardian or a surrogate visitor may sleep overnight at bedside, **except in the NICU.**
  - Two (2) adult parent/legal guardian or surrogate visitors can accompany a child to a procedure. One (1) parent/legal guardian or a surrogate visitor at a time may be in the recovery room with a pediatric patient.
  
5. **Behavioral Health Adult Inpatient Units** Visiting Hours are site specific and as follows:
  - Brookdale Hospital – 2:00pm-3:00pm and 5:00pm-6:00pm
  - Interfaith Medical Center – 2:00pm-3:00pm and 6:30pm-8:00pm
  - Visitors are limited to one (1) person per day.
  - No visitation in CPEP (Adult/Pediatrics).
  
6. **Emergency Department (ED)** Visiting Hours are site specific and as follows:
  - Brookdale Hospital – 2:00pm-5:00pm and 9:00pm-12midnight
  - Interfaith Medical Center – 24 hours
  - Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center – 24 hours
  - One support visitor is permitted to stay in the ED (e.g., home health aide, support person for a developmentally delayed person, etc.)
  - The ED clinical team may limit visitors to ensure staff and patient safety.



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7. **Ambulatory Care Services:**

The One Brooklyn Health System (OBHS) Hospitals outpatient practices visitor policy will be limited to ensure proper social distancing within the practices based on current government recommendations.

- Patients are allowed only one visitor at a time.
- Anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the previous 10 days will not be allowed into an outpatient practice, however, telemedicine visits can be scheduled.
- Social distancing rules will be applied, and visitors may be asked to wait outside
- For same day surgical procedures patients, visitors may be asked to leave or remain in a hospital designated waiting areas depending upon space availability after the check-in process. Visitors may return when the patient is ready for discharge.