	Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital, Inc.	<i>Policy Number</i>	PTCRE020
	Patient Care/Administrative General	<i>Effective Date</i>	11/07/2022
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	In-Person Patient Visitation	<i>Supersedes</i>	05/06/2022

This document applies to the following Participating Organizations:

Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital

Keywords: care partner, family, parents, room in, rooming in, siblings, visitation, visitors


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I. PURPOSE

In-person visitation of patients at a Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital (JHACH) location to support a patient and family centered environment, that ensures the quality and safety of the care provided.


II. POLICY STATEMENT

- A. All pediatric patients are permitted in-person visitors, and updates on visitor restrictions related to community transmission rates of infectious disease, including COVID-19, are posted at hopkinsallchildrens.org.
- B. The following apply regardless of community transmission rates of infectious disease:
 1. Pediatric patients will always be permitted at least 1 in-person care partner.
 2. Identified care partners may be present in the hospital 24 hours a day.
 3. Care partners and visitors must abide by the infection prevention policies in place. Current infection prevention measures for care partners and visitors can be found on the [JHACH Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Information](#) page.
 4. Patients have the right to consensual physical contact with visitors.¹
 5. Patients have the right to a care partner of their choice.
 - a. Patients who are adults or emancipated minors may designate a visitor who is a family member, friend, or other individual as an essential caregiver.²
 - b. Care partners can exercise the patients' visitation rights on their behalf if the patient is unable to do so.
 6. All Care Partners and visitors who are 16 years or older, are required to produce a government issued valid identification (ID), to obtain a parent or visitor badge from Public Safety at the main hospital or the main outpatient care center entrances.
 - a. Exceptions can be agreed upon by Public Safety and associated departments.
 - b. JHACH does not restrict, limit or otherwise deny visitation privileges on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, veteran or marital status, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, ethnicity, language, physical and/or mental disability or known association with any protected class.
 7. Visitors will not be asked to show proof of immunization or vaccination.
 8. JHACH can suspend in person visitation of specific visitors if they fail to comply with the JHACH patient rights and responsibilities.

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9. All visitors and care partners should be free of infectious disease or communicable disease, including COVID-19, prior to visiting.
 10. Any other policies that reference visitation at the department level must minimally comply with this policy, but can be more restrictive.
 11. It is the responsibility of the Vice President of Medical Affairs and the Chief Nursing Officer to ensure staff adhere to this policy and guidelines.
- C. Emergencies/Natural Disasters/Public Health Crisis
1. In severe weather, natural disasters, public health crises, or situations where there is at threat of violence and other emergencies, the hospital may temporarily be locked down.
 - a. Visitation may be suspended during this time. However, at least one care partner will be permitted to stay with patients until the lockdown is lifted.
 - b. During emergencies, the hospital incident command center will communicate specific guidelines for individual patient care areas until after the incident command is de-activated.
 - c. JHACH reserves the right to adjust hospital visitation policies at any time based on current communicable disease trends/epidemics/pandemics and/or in the event of extraordinary circumstances warranting a change in hospital visitation.
 - i. If a patient has confirmed or suspected COVID-19, the following visitation guidelines are in place:
 - A care partner can be present.
 - The care partner must stay with the patient in their room throughout the patient's stay.
 - Any rotation of care partners must be approved by clinical leadership and the care partners must be escorted to and from the room by hospital staff or approved volunteers.
 - Parent's meals will be delivered and eaten in the room with the child.
 - Neonatal ICU policies for COVID+/PUIs may vary. Please check with local leadership.
 - ii. JHACH uses four color-coded visitation risk levels to determine how we can safely invite care partners and visitors to join patients during inpatient stays. These guidelines help protect our patients, their care partners and our staff members by limiting the spread of the coronavirus that causes COVID-19. The visitation risk levels are based on the number of COVID-19 cases in the community according to state and county public health information, as well as conditions in our health care environments.
 - Purple-Highest Risk
 - Up to 2 care partners may be at the bedside at the same time; up to 4 care partners can be named for the child for the duration of the stay — however, only 2 care partners may be in the hospital at a time. End-of-life exceptions for siblings may apply.
 - Level Red-High Risk
 - Up to 2 care partners may be at the bedside at the same time; care partners may rotate during the day. Visitation is open to visitors invited by the family who are over the age of 18.
 - Level Yellow-Medium Risk and Level Green-Lower Risk (COVID 19 still present in Community)
 - Up to 2 care partners may be at the bedside at the same time.
 - General care: Maximum of 3 children and 1 adult, or 2 adults and 2 children at the bedside at a time during visiting hours.
 - ICUs, high acuity areas or patients with immunocompromise: Visiting hours and guidelines may vary.

¹In accordance with Florida law, [SB 988](#).

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²In-person visitation by the essential caregiver will be permitted for at least 2 hours daily in addition to any other authorized visitation. In accordance with Florida law [SB 988](#), essential caregivers are not required to provide care to a patient, nor are providers required to compel an essential caregiver to provide care.

III. DEFINITIONS

Care Partner	Care partners must be the parents/guardians or be approved by the parents/guardians.
Family	A group of individuals with a continuing legal, genetic and/or emotional relationship with the patient, American Academy of Family Physicians, (2009)
Visitor	Anyone invited by the family to be present who does not meet the criteria for family or care partner
Visitor Badge	An adhesive badge that will be generated through the visitor management system displaying the visitor's picture, name, destination and time period.

IV. PROCEDURE

1. All visitors 16 years or older, including but not limited to, parents, legal guardians and care partners, must obtain a visitor badge. This visitor badge must be displayed on the person above the waist in a visible location at all times.
2. Visitor badges are issued at entry to the hospital and outpatient care centers including: three locations on campus, the main lobby on 501 6th Avenue South, the 2nd floor of the Outpatient Care Center, and the Emergency Center..
3. Visitors may only receive a badge to visit a specific patient, employee or someone with a JHACH identification badge. No visitor badges will be issued for visitation of multiple areas or patients throughout the hospital. Exceptions may be made for parents or legal guardians with patients on different units.
4. A limit of two visitors (not including parents/legal guardians/support person) per patient at a time will be permitted in a patient room. Additional visitors may be allowed at the charge nurse's or management's discretion.
 1. Due to space limitations, only two care partners/family members/visitors 18 years and older may sleep at the bedside in the patient room.
5. The hospital accepts the patient's (parent/legal guardian) designation of an individual as a care partner either orally or in writing (preferred). The care partner is a family member, friend or other designated individual who supports the patient during the course of hospital stay.
6. Visitation restrictions or revocations will be facilitated by an authorized party.
7. To ensure patient confidentiality, care partners/family/visitors may be requested to leave the bedside for a period of time during rounds or procedures.
8. Visitors, including siblings, under the age of 18 must be accompanied and supervised by an adult.
 1. Child Life is available to assess and assist in preparing young siblings for visitation.
9. Play areas are generally reserved for patient use and are not available for visitors without permission from the charge nurse of the unit or Child Life.
10. All visitors, including care partners/family/visitors, who are ill or have a recent exposure to a contagious disease, should refrain from visiting to protect patients, healthcare workers and other visitors from a secondary illness.

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1. To prevent the spread of infections, no patients or visitors may be permitted in another patient's room for any reason at any time.
11. Johns Hopkins All Children's reserves the right to prevent or discontinue visitation based on a security, safety or potential safety concern to any and all patients, including awareness of sexual offender or sexual predator status.

V. SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

References:

- A. [Senate Bill 988 - Enrolled](#) View Bill Summary [here](#)

Ownership:

- Integrated Care Management
- Nursing Administration
- Public Safety

VI. APPROVAL

Electronic Signature(s)	Date
Melissa Macogay Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer, Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital	11/04/2022
Joseph Perno Vice President of Medical Affairs, Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital	11/03/2022