

WILL VISITING BE COMPLETELY RESTRICTED?

Visiting may be completely restricted if the organism causing the outbreak cannot be contained. Visitor restrictions will only be implemented as a safety measure to protect our residents, patients, families, staff and the general public.

WHEN WILL VISITING RESTRICTIONS BE LIFTED?

Infection Prevention and Control will assess the status of the outbreak on a daily basis and lift restrictions as soon as the risk to our residents, patients families, staff and visitors has been minimized.

**HAND HYGIENE
THE BEST
WAY TO PREVENT
INFECTION**

Hand Hygiene

Special care must be paid to **hand hygiene**, as it is the best way to prevent the spread of germs. **Good hand hygiene includes:**

Alcohol-Based Hand Rub

- Apply to palm of one hand.
- Rub hands together, covering all of hands and fingers.
- Rub until hands feel dry
- If hands are visibly dirty you must wash them before using Alcohol Based Hand Rub

Hand Washing:

- Use warm running water and soap
- Spend at least 15-30 seconds lathering and washing hands
- Rub hands together, paying attention to fingertips, around rings and thumbs
- Rinse thoroughly
- Dry with paper towel and turn off tap with paper towel
- Dispose of paper towel in the garbage

IT'S OK TO ASK NURSES, DOCTORS AND OTHER HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS IF THEY HAVE CLEANED THEIR HANDS

REMAND VISITORS TO CLEAN THEIR HANDS

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**HOW TO FACILITATE
SAFE VISITING DURING
OUTBREAKS**

INFECTION PREVENTION
& CONTROL PROGRAM

WHAT IS AN OUTBREAK?

An outbreak of respiratory or GI illness occurs when there are two or more patients/residents on a unit experiencing the same symptoms.

HOW CAN WE REDUCE THE SPREAD?

To help reduce the spread of the illness in the unit/facility we:

1. Contain those that are sick to their rooms
2. Control the movement of staff between units
3. Enhance environmental cleaning
4. Restrict social gatherings, especially those in which food would be served
5. Implement visitor precautions

WHAT ARE VISITOR PRECAUTIONS?

Visitor Precautions are a series of infection control measures that are implemented as a method of reducing the risk of spreading infectious diseases (influenza, norovirus, etc.). They are designed to help keep our patients/residents, families, staff, and visitors healthy and safe.

WHAT DO VISITOR PRECAUTIONS INCLUDE?

Visitor Precautions include:

- Do NOT visit if you are ill
- Check with the nursing desk before you visit
- You must clean your hands before entering the unit and before leaving the unit
- You may only visit one patient/resident
- The number of people who may visit a given patient/resident at one time is 1 (special exceptions will be made for palliative patients/residents)
- Personal Protective equipment (masks, gloves or gowns) must be worn for the duration of your visit. The nursing staff will instruct you about what equipment is required and how to properly apply and remove it.

Attention Family, Visitors and Staff



Visitor Precautions Are In Place

Help Reduce the Spread of Infection:

- Do not visit this facility if you are ill.
- Check with nursing staff before you visit.
- Clean your hands before entering and leaving the unit.
- Should you visit more than one resident at one visit, please ensure you take the necessary precautions.
- Wear gloves, gown and/or mask during your visit. Nursing staff will advise you which equipment is required and how to properly apply and remove it.

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