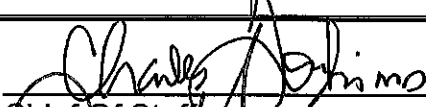


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| Crenshaw Community Hospital Policies and Procedures | Policy Number AHW.100.0012 | Effective Date 05/2022 |
| | Revision Date 05/04/2023 | Review Date 05/04/2023 |
| Manual: Administrative House Wide Title: Visitation Rights and Restrictions |  <hr/> Chief Of Staff <hr/> Administrator. | |

Policy:

Crenshaw Community Hospital allows equal visitation rights for all hospitalized patients with clinical restrictions for certain circumstances. Patients will be notified of their Rights and Responsibilities when they are admitted to the hospital. The Patient Handbook, containing information about visitation, as well as a list of the Patient Rights and Responsibilities, is given to all inpatients by the Admissions department.

It is the policy of Crenshaw Community Hospital to comply with the CMS Code 42CFR482.13, updated April 28, 2023, requiring equal visitation rights for hospitalized patients, and to establish circumstances for which visitation will be limited based on clinical restrictions. This code prohibits hospitals from restricting, limiting, or otherwise denying visitation privileges based on race, color, national origin, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability.

Visitors and Visiting Hours

Crenshaw Community Hospital's 24/7 visitation program encourages a patient to choose a family member, support person, or close friend to visit or stay with them during their hospital stay. The staff at Crenshaw Community Hospital believes that faith, family, and friends all play a critical role in our overall patient-focused care approach and in the patient's satisfaction and well-being.

- A patient may receive visitors of their choosing during their admission here at CCH, subject to facility policy and procedures.
- A visitor 18 years of age or younger will need to be accompanied by an adult during visitation.
- CCH will allow in-person visitation in several specified circumstances (end of life situations, pediatric patients, labor and delivery, etc.), unless the patient objects.
- CCH will allow consensual physical contact between the patient and a visitor.
- A patient may also appoint an essential caregiver. The essential caregiver can be rotated. If a patient is incapacitated and has designated a family member or a person that has legal medical proxy or authority to make decisions for this, the patient may designate an essential caregiver. An essential caregiver is not

required to provide any necessary care to the patient and is purely a function of being appointed or designated by the patient or other persons with authority under the law.

- At CCH a patient may have a member of the clergy to visit in the same manner as an essential caregiver.
- Visitors are required to comply with facility visitation policies, and their visitation rights may be suspended for failure to comply with CCH policies and procedures.
- The hospital may specify the number of visitors at any given time and/or the number of visitors per day in accordance to state and federal regulations. (See IC Policy #IC.1100.0000)
- Circumstances may arise where visitation must be restricted for clinical reasons (infection control, clinical contraindications, etc.), unless otherwise required by state law.
- Infection Control and Prevention may have requirements that visitors must adhere to while in the health care facility, generally, or when visiting specific departments or units (which may not be more stringent than such requirements for healthcare facility staff).(See IC Policy #IC.1100.0000)
- Life safety requirements for maximum building/area occupancy must be adhered to.
- For the comfort of patients and others in the hospital, visitors are expected to keep noises and disruptions to a minimum.
- Visitors should wash their hands upon entering and exiting the patient's room. (See IC Handwashing Policy #IC.1100.0060)
- A patient may request a "No Visitors" sign when he/she does not want guests and has the right to deny or withdraw consent for visitation at any time.

Clinical Restrictions or Limitations on Visitation:

The following circumstances have been established that will limit visitation due to clinical issues. This list is not all inclusive and at any time hospital professionals may use their best clinical judgement to determine when visitation would interfere with the care of the patient and/or the care of other patients.

- The patient is undergoing care interventions
- The presence of infection control issues (See IC Policy #IC.1100.0000)
- Visitation may interfere with the care of other patients
- Existence of court orders restricting contact (of which the hospital is aware)
- Disruptive, threatening, or violent behavior of any kind
- Patient or patient's roommate(s) need for privacy or rest
- In the case of an inpatient substance abuse program, there are protocols limiting visitation.
- Need for limitation on the number of visitors during a specific time period related to the patient's care in progress

Visitation Specific to Hospital Units

- **Emergency Room**

CCH's ER Unit will only allow a maximum of two visitors. However, there are a few exceptions that will be allowed; including end of life, caregiver of those with disabilities, and parent(s) of an underage child, labor and delivery, etc.

- **Surgical Department**

No surgical patients will be allowed visitors in the surgical clinical areas unless specifically ordered by the physician. Surgical patients and their visitor will enter through the main hospital entrance. The patient will be escorted by staff to the assigned Surgical Holding Area and the visitor will remain in the front lobby. After surgery is complete, the surgical team will come to the lobby to consult with the patient's visitor and give discharge instructions.

- **Special Services Unit**

The behavioral health unit will allow scheduled family visits unless otherwise requested by the attending physician. However, if the patient is psychologically unstable as evident by disruptive, threatening, or violent behavior of any kind, there will be no visitation allowed at that time.