

Status **Active** PolicyStat ID **19239221**



Origination 03/2021
Last 11/2025
Approved
Effective 11/2025
Last Revised 11/2025
Next Review 11/2028

Area ADMINISTRATION
Applicability USA Health
Children's &
Women's
Hospital
References Administrative

Visitation Guidelines

Policy:

Visitation Guidelines

- Masks are recommended but not required. Masks may be required in some patient care areas to ensure safety of the patient.
- Inpatient Visitation is 9am-9pm daily. Max of four (4) visitors/caregivers in medical surgical areas and two (2) visitors/caregivers in specialty /ICU areas.
- Only two (2) caregivers allowed after 9pm for patients.
- Four (4) caregivers allowed in Labor & Delivery 24/7. One (1) caregiver allowed at the bedside for Labor & Delivery Operating Room patients.
- Parent/caregiver should be present in patient's room to receive other visitors, including clergy.
- Refer to the Visitation Guidelines Informational Graphic below.

Visitation Restrictions:

Visitation restrictions may apply when:

- Clinically necessary
- Patient is on isolation
- Infection prevention practices dictate, including:
 - Parent's family and visitors who have fever, cough, or other flu/infectious symptoms are to visit.
 - Siblings and children under the age of 12 are not allowed to visit when seasonal visitation guidelines are in place (October 1st- March 31st each year).
- Siblings/Children under the age of 18 are not allowed to visit in the NICU.

Special Visitor Precautions:

- Siblings/Children will be screened for at the unit level before entering Mother Baby or HROB units to ensure they are symptom free.
- Siblings must be accompanied by and supervised by an adult caregiver (not the patient).
- Flu vaccine is recommended for Visitors in critical care units.
- Visitors/Caregivers who have received live viral vaccines in the last 30 days are not permitted to visit certain immunocompromised patients (Hematology/Oncology, NICU patients).
- Outpatient Clinics - due to space limitations visitors within this area should be limited. Exceptions may be made for mothers without child care, etc.
- With Clinical Administrator or manager approval, exceptions to this policy may be made to meet patient/family needs.

Visitation Guidelines for PICU (outside respiratory season)

- Visiting hours are 9am – 9pm
- Visitors should check in at the PICU front desk for a visitor badge.
- To protect the health of our patients and others within the facility, individuals experiencing any signs or symptoms of illness including cough, fever, rash, nasal discharge, or gastrointestinal symptoms, are asked to refrain from visiting until they are symptom-free.
- A maximum of 4 people is allowed at the bedside at one time (including parents, siblings, extended family and others).
- Only 2 parents or designated caregivers are permitted after 9pm (a maximum of 2 parent/caregiver armbands are issued in PICU to allow for visitation after 9pm). All other visitors must leave the hospital.
- Sibling visitors must be from the same household and are identified on admission.
 - 1 sibling age 10 and up may visit at a time during normal visiting hours (9am – 9pm).
 - Siblings aged 10-15 must be accompanied by an adult.
 - Siblings aged 16 and up may visit unaccompanied and must follow all instructions of PICU nurses.
- Siblings 9 and under may schedule 30-minute visits through the PICU Child Life representatives (Monday – Friday 8am – 4pm).
- Visitors age 16 to 18 with a government-issued ID may visit unaccompanied during regular visiting hours (9am – 9pm) and must follow all instructions of PICU nurses.
- Visitation may be restricted at the discretion of the physician, charge nurse, or house supervisor based on the patient's needs.

Visitation Guidelines for PICU (during respiratory season)

- During peak respiratory virus season (November 1 – February 28) there is a maximum of 2

visitors allowed at the bedside and visitors under the age of 18 are not allowed.

Visitation Guidelines for 1:1 Observation Behavioral Health Patients in PICU

- Visiting hours are 9am – 9pm
- 2 visitors (including parents/guardians) are allowed at the bedside at a time unless otherwise approved by the treatment team
- Visitors under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult
- If a treatment team member feels that a visit or phone contact by a parent/guardian/visitor would be therapeutically detrimental to the patient – visitation or phone contact may be restricted.
- Visitors will not be allowed to bring personal items into the room unless they are cleared by the medical team. Personal items should be stored in the visitor's vehicle. PICU staff are not responsible for personal items left in the common areas.

Visitation Guidelines for PACU

- The PACU remains locked to ensure the safety of patients, families, and staff. Permission to enter the PACU must be obtained through the attendant in the Surgical Waiting Room. The PACU charge nurse may temporarily suspend visitation in the event of an emergency. At times, visitors may be asked to leave the unit or wait before visiting their family member to maintain patient safety and privacy.
- Occasionally, patient care procedures may warrant the need for all visitors to leave the patient's bedside, at the discretion of the medical/nursing staff. Once the patient's condition has stabilized, visitors will be allowed to re-enter the patient care area.
- A maximum of two visitors is permitted at the patient's bedside at any given time. In special circumstances, additional visitors may be allowed at the nurse's discretion.
- Children under 14 years of age are not permitted to visit the PACU unless approved by the patient's nurse. If a child's behavior becomes disruptive to the unit, staff may request that the child and accompanying adult return to the Surgery Waiting Room. Minors must not be left alone with the patient and must remain under the supervision of a responsible adult.
- Visitors are issued a green armband to identify them as authorized Preop/PACU visitors. The armband must be worn at all times while their family member is a patient in the Department of Surgery and may not be shared or transferred to other family members.
- Children are not allowed to be unattended in the surgical waiting room at any time.

Visitation Guidelines Informational Graphic

The graphic is a vertical stack of four colored boxes. The top box is dark blue with white text: 'USA HEALTH CHILDREN'S & WOMEN'S HOSPITAL' and 'visitation guidelines'. The second box is light blue with a sun icon, '9am - 9pm', a large '2', and lists 'caregivers at bedside: Emergency Department, OB Evaluation, PICU and NICU, Hope and OB Clinic, Surgical Services'. The third box is light blue with a large '4', and lists 'caregivers at bedside: Pediatrics Medical / Surgical, High Risk OB, Women's Complex Care, Mother/Baby'. The fourth box is dark blue with a moon icon, '9pm - 9am', a large '2', and lists 'caregivers at bedside: all units'. The fifth box is light blue with sun and moon icons, '24 hours', a large '4', and lists 'caregivers at bedside: Labor and Delivery (1 at bedside for L&D OR)'. A large, faint 'COPY' watermark is visible on the right side of the graphic.

USA HEALTH
CHILDREN'S & WOMEN'S HOSPITAL
visitation guidelines

 **9am - 9pm**

2 caregivers at bedside:
Emergency Department
OB Evaluation
PICU and NICU
Hope and OB Clinic
Surgical Services

4 caregivers at bedside:
Pediatrics Medical / Surgical
High Risk OB
Women's Complex Care
Mother/Baby

 **9pm - 9am**

2 caregivers at bedside:
all units

  **24 hours**

4 caregivers at bedside:
Labor and Delivery
(1 at bedside for L&D OR)

Visitation guidelines are subject to change in response to seasonal variations in influenza and other community-transmitted illnesses, in order to protect the health and safety of our patients, families, and

staff.

Approval Signatures

Step Description	Approver	Date
Chief Executive Officer	Deborah Browning: Chief Executive Officer - Hospital	11/2025

Applicability

USA Health Children's & Women's Hospital

Standards

No standards are associated with this document