

Visitor Policy

At Providence, we understand the importance of patients having access to loved ones while receiving care. Our current guideline is to allow visitors as specified below in Providence Northern California hospitals.

One healthy visitor will be allowed per each COVID-positive patient at a time. For COVID-19 pediatric patients, one healthy guardian is allowed to visit.

For all other patients, the following visitor guidelines and requirements apply:

- **Hospital/inpatient:** Two healthy visitors per patient will be allowed at a time.
- **Emergency Department:** Two visitors per patient will be allowed at a time. Visitors are not allowed to use the ED lobby/waiting area and must stay in the ED room with the patient.
- Visitors must:
 - Be 14 years or older and be immediate family (or powers of attorney, guardians, or patient representative).
 - Wear a well-fitting, hospital-issued face mask that will be provided at the entrance to the facility upon check-in and follow facility infection prevention rules. Anyone not able to wear a mask due to a medical condition should not enter the hospital.

Additional guidelines apply in these circumstances:

- Maternity units – 2 parent/significant other in addition to the pregnant individual, plus siblings of the newborn, and up to one other support person, e.g., a doula. If the primary visitor lives with a COVID-19 laboring individual, they are considered a high-risk exposure and should determine if an alternate, non-exposed caretaker is available. If not, this person may be allowed to visit if they meet specific criteria, including: they are asymptomatic, wear a mask and proper PPE, agree to remain in the room for the duration of the hospitalization, and follow testing protocols.
- Patients in critical condition, when death may be imminent/receiving palliative care – we will assess case by case but will make accommodations.
- Additional exceptions may apply in specific high-acuity emergency circumstances.

Admittance for fire, police, ambulance, and other pre-hospital care workers should follow state and local guidelines.

Clinical staff may ensure visitors maintain proper infection prevention precautions including the proper utilization of PPE when entering and exiting the room.

Visitors are requested to perform hand hygiene frequently while in patient care areas.

Visitors are not permitted to eat or drink in patient rooms, but are permitted in hospital cafeterias.