



COVID-19 Mount Sinai Hospital Visitation Policy Pilot with the New York Department of Health

Background

The Mount Sinai Hospital and Mount Sinai Queens are proud to partner with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) in a pilot program to expand visitation to our patients. We recognize that separation of patients from their loved ones during a hospital stay may cause stress and anxiety for patients and their families. The Mount Sinai Hospital and Mount Sinai Queens are working in collaboration with the NYSDOH to continue to ensure a safe environment of care while permitting expanded visitation.

Visitor Policy

The Mount Sinai Hospital Visitors Policy must be strictly adhered to as per guidelines from the State Department of Health. Visiting hours will be determined by the facility;

All visitors must be above 18 years of age; any exception will be determined by the hospital;

Visitors will be directed for a symptom and temperature check upon entry and shall be denied entry if they report significant COVID-19 exposure or symptoms during the prior 14 days or have a temperature greater than or equal to 37.8° C or 100.04° F;

Visitors are provided with and must wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) as recommended by the Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

PPE will be provided to visitors, and staff will direct visitors in the appropriate use of the PPE for that specific patient;

All visitation will be limited to a total of four hours per day per patient, unless otherwise authorized by the Department of Health, depending on the patient's status and condition;



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Visitors will be given a visitor identification sticker that specifies the date of the visit and indicates that the visitor has passed the symptom and temperature screen;

Clinical staff will advise visitors on how to perform meticulous hand hygiene and reinforce the appropriate way to wear and remove PPE;

Visitors will be limited to one person per patient at a time. A limited number of additional persons will be permitted only when appropriate and at the discretion of the hospital;

Patients undergoing ambulatory procedures may be accompanied to the facility by a companion; that companion may remain with the patient through the initial intake process and may rejoin the patient for the discharge process;

Visitors may not be present during procedures and in the recovery room except for pediatrics, childbirth, and patients with an intellectual, developmental, or other cognitive disability;

Once in the facility, visitors must remain in the patient's room throughout the visit except when directed by hospital staff to leave during aerosol-generating procedures or other procedures during which visitors are usually asked to leave;

Visitors who fail to adhere to any of the above procedures will be asked to leave the facility;

Health care providers will thoroughly discuss the potential risks and benefits of the visitor's presence with the visitor and, depending upon the patient's condition, the patient;

Signage about visiting will be present at entrances. This information as well as details about the facility's visitation policy, including participation in the pilot hospital visitation program, is posted on our website, www.mountsinai.org.