

Title: Visitation During Communicable Disease Outbreak-FL

Policy Number: WEL-134-FLVisitation

Effective Date: January 1, 2022

Revision Date: August 1, 2023

Applicable Level of Care: Independent Living, Assisted Living, & Memory Care – Florida

Policy: It is the American House Policy to follow the appropriate guidelines for visitation.

Purpose: To ensure resident visitation rights during communicable disease outbreak.

Procedure:

The Executive Director and/or designee is responsible for ensuring that staff and visitors adhere to the following policies and procedures:

Infection Control

- Infection Control measures will be implemented for both prevention of disease and response to controlling the spread of disease. See “Communicable Disease” policy.

Education

- Visitors will have access to education regarding communicable disease infection prevention and PPE utilization. See “Communicable Disease” policy.

Screening

- Screening is not required for either staff or visitors prior to entering the building.
- In the scenario that a visitor would like to screen themselves for an elevated temperature, supplies will be provided.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- In the scenario that a visitor would like PPE and they cannot provide their own, they will be provided appropriate PPE.
- See “Standards for Use of Facial Coverings-Florida” Policy.

Indoor Visits

- Residents will not be denied the right to have visits in any of the following circumstances, unless the resident objects:
 - End-of-life circumstances
 - A resident who was living with family before being admitted to the community is struggling with the change in environment and lack of in-person family support
 - A resident is making one or more major medical decisions
 - A resident is experiencing emotional distress or grieving the loss of a friend or family member who recently died
 - A resident who needs cuing or encouragement to eat or drink which was previously provided by a family member or caregiver

- A resident who used to talk and interact with others is seldom speaking
- Indoor visits should always be available for all residents, regardless of vaccination status.
- The Community may ask about a visitor's vaccination status but must not require a personal visitor to provide documentation of their vaccination status as a condition of visitation or to enter the facility. A personal visitor may refuse to provide information about their vaccination status.
- Total length of visit time is not is not monitored or limited
- Total number of visitors is not monitored or limited
- Locations of visits will not be monitored or limited
- Physical touch is not monitored or limited
- Social distancing is not monitored or required

Essential Caregiver

- In addition to any visitation, the resident may designate a visitor who is a family member, friend, guardian , or other individual as an essential caregiver.
- It is not required that the Essential Caregiver provide necessary care to a resident.
- After normal visitation hours, the essential caregiver may have additional in-person access including a minimum of at least 2 hours daily, including for during the times that residents have any of the following scenarios, unknown communicable disease status, negative communicable disease status, or positive communicable disease status.
- An essential caregiver visit is not allowed if the visitor has signs or symptoms of a communicable disease or an active communicable disease.
- A negative communicable disease test result is not required for essential caregivers.
- For Essential Caregivers:
 - Total length of visit time is not is not monitored or limited
 - Total number of visitors is not monitored or limited
 - Locations of visits will not be monitored or limited. A resident's preference for where the visit occurs should be accommodated unless doing so would place the resident or visitor
 - Physical touch is not monitored or limited
 - Social distancing is not monitored or required
- The Community may deny an essential caregiver the right to visit if they fail to comply with all visitation requirements.

Title: Standards for Facial Coverings-Florida

Policy Number: WEL-138-FacialCoveringsFL

Effective Date: 08/01/23

Revision Date: 08/01/2023

Applicable Level of Care: Independent Living, Assisted Living, & Memory Care

Policy: It is the American House Policy to follow the appropriate state guidelines regarding the standard use of facial coverings.

Purpose: To ensure standard use of facial coverings for staff, residents, and visitors.

Procedure:

Resident Standards for Facial Coverings

1. Residents will be required to wear a facial covering in common areas only when:
 - a. The resident is exhibiting signs or symptoms of a communicable infectious disease that can be spread through droplet or airborne transmission; OR
 - b. The resident has been diagnosed with a communicable infectious disease that can be spread through droplet or airborne transmission.

Visitor Standards for Facial Coverings

1. Visitors will be required to wear a facial covering only when:
 - a. The visitor is exhibiting signs or symptoms of a communicable infectious disease that can be spread through droplet or airborne transmission;
 - b. The visitor has been diagnosed with a communicable infectious disease that can be spread through droplet or airborne transmission;
 - c. The visitor is in a resident room with a resident who is exhibiting signs or symptoms of or has a diagnosed infectious disease that can be spread through droplet or airborne transmission;
 - d. The visitor is visiting a resident whose treating health care practitioner has diagnosed the resident with or confirmed a condition affecting the immune system in a manner which is known to increase risk of transmission of an infection from others without signs or symptoms of infection; OR
 - e. The visitor is visiting a resident whose treating practitioner has determined that the use of facial coverings is necessary for the resident's safety.

Staff Standards for Facial Coverings

1. Staff will be required to wear a facial covering only when:
 - a. The staff member exhibiting signs or symptoms of a communicable infectious disease that can be spread through droplet or airborne transmission;
 - b. The staff member has been diagnosed with a communicable infectious disease that can be spread through droplet or airborne transmission;

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- c. The staff member is in a resident room with a resident who is exhibiting signs or symptoms of or has a diagnosed infectious disease that can be spread through droplet or airborne transmission;
 - d. The staff member is with a resident whose treating health care practitioner has diagnosed the resident with or confirmed a condition affecting the immune system in a manner which is known to increase risk of transmission of an infection from others without signs or symptoms of infection; OR
 - e. The staff member is with a resident whose treating practitioner has determined that the use of facial coverings is necessary for the resident's safety.
 - f. The staff member is engaging in a non-clinical potentially hazardous activity that requires facial covering to prevent physical injury or harm in accordance with industry standards