



**Residence Patient Visitation Restrictions in Response to
COVID-19**

Regulatory Citation(s):	None
L-Tag(s):	None
PURPOSE:	To allow for visits in the Hospicare Residence while reducing the risk of COVID-19 and maintaining the health of our patients, visitors, and staff.
POLICY:	Hospicare will adhere to the most current local, state, and/or federal guidelines and best practice regarding visitor restriction to reduce the risk of COVID-19.
PROCEDURE:	<p>The number of visitors in the Residence is limited to one at a time, per Residence patient. Should visitors for a patient arrive in groups, only one person within that group is permitted into the building at a time. Additional visitors may wait outdoors on the Hospicare campus or in their vehicle. Visitors will not be permitted to wait on the Residence deck or inside the building.</p> <p>Any requests for additional visitors when patient death is imminent are to be directed to the Residence Team Leader, or designee. Approval will be determined on a case by case basis.</p> <p>Hospicare & Palliative Care Services' Flowchart to Identify and Assess COVID-19 Risk: Other, will be used for the evaluation of Residence visitors, to screen who may be ill with, who may have been exposed to, or who is a high risk for COVID-19. The flowchart will be completed prior to visitor entry to the Hospicare building. Those who screen positive as a high risk and/or for respiratory symptoms such as a fever $\geq 100.0^{\circ}\text{F}$, cough, shortness of breath, and/or sore throat <u>will not be allowed to enter the Hospicare building.</u></p> <p>Visitor Guidelines will be reviewed with each visitor, including instruction on hand hygiene and proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE). Visitors must agree to comply with visitation guidelines, as outlined in the Visitation Agreement, by signing the agreement prior to visiting.</p>



Visitors will **not** be allowed to wear a cloth facemask while inside the Hospicare Residence. Visitors permitted in the Hospicare Residence will be provided a procedure facemask that must be worn **at all times** when inside the building. Facemasks must cover the mouth and nose and fit snugly. Per New York State Executive Order 202.16, children under the age of two are not required to wear a face covering and face coverings are not required if wearing one would inhibit or otherwise impair an individual's health.

Visitors will maintain social distancing of greater than 6 feet throughout the visit.

Visitors must always remain in the patient room unless to use the Visitor Restroom or if asked by the Residence staff to leave briefly so care may be provided; visitors will be instructed on where to wait during this time. Visitors may not congregate in the Great Room, Residence TV area, or the Mary Ellen Carollo hospitality kitchen. At no time are visitors permitted in the Residence kitchen.

Outdoor visits on the Hospicare campus may be permitted with a restriction of four visitors per Residence patient. Visitors are required to wear a facemask at all times during outside visits and maintain social distancing of greater than 6 feet throughout the visit. Cloth facemasks may be worn during outside visits.

Visits will be monitored by Residence staff to ensure adherence with guidelines (e.g., proper use of PPE and remaining in designated patient room).

Visitors who fail to properly utilize PPE throughout the visit or adhere to the Visitation Agreement will be asked to leave.