

Indoor/Outdoor Visitation Policy

Revision Date: 11/16/2021

POLICY:

To ensure residents and their visitors have safe, protected, and monitored indoor /outdoor visitation during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis, and ensuring an adequate degree of privacy for residents and their visitors. Outdoor visitation is still preferred over indoor when possible.

PURPOSE:

To provide a visitation program that is safe, minimizing the risk of COVID-19 transmission and as well considering the residents' physical, mental and psychosocial well-being.

PROCEDURES:

Prior to initiating indoor visitation

- Prior to initiating indoor visitation, residents, family members and resident representatives will be informed of the precautions being taken to keep residents safe. The notification will include:
 1. A description of the symptom screening process.
 2. All terms of indoor and outdoor visitation, including mask/shield and social distancing requirements, how to summon Deanwood Rehab staff if needed, and what will cause a visitor to be denied entry.
 3. Steps visitors must take before, upon arrival, and during their visit at Deanwood Rehab and wellness Center.

Visitation at Deanwood:

- *All visits* at Deanwood Rehab and Wellness Center will not be restricted or scheduled.
- If a visitor, resident, or their representative is aware of the risks associated with visitation and the visit occurs in a manner that does not place other

residents at risk (e.g., in the resident's room), the resident must be allowed to receive visitors as he/she chooses.

- Deanwood Rehab and wellness Center will limit indoor visitors to people who can comply with mask and social distancing requirements.
- Children under the age of 18 visiting Deanwood Rehab and Wellness Center must always be accompanied by a guardian and must be able to comply with face mask and social distancing requirements.
- Visitors during a given visit will not be allowed to remain on-site to visit multiple residents at a time. Exceptions will be created for registered facility volunteers who must be fully vaccinated.
- The duration of the visits at Deanwood Rehab and Wellness Center will not have a fixed time limit. Duration of the visits will be determined by how well Deanwood Rehab can safely accommodate the number of visitors as well as providing adequate number of staff to ensure safety precautions are monitored and enforced.
- Deanwood Rehab and Wellness Center receptionist will greet visitors at the lobby area at the entrance of the facility and item 1-3 listed below must be completed:
 1. Screen all visitors and service providers.
 2. Perform temperature check and symptom screening.
 3. Ensure visitors are fever-free, symptom-free, and have no known exposure to someone with COVID-19 within the past 14 days.
- Visitors who have a positive viral test for COVID-19, symptoms of COVID-19, or currently meet the criteria for quarantine will not be allowed to enter the facility. The facility will screen all who enter for these visitation exclusions.
- Deanwood Rehab and Wellness Center receptionist will ensure all visitors have a surgical mask or an N-95 that does not have an exhalation valve, and ensure the mask covers the visitor's nose and mouth.
- The receptionist will ensure all visitors clean their hands with alcohol-based hand sanitizer upon entering and exiting the facility.
- At the reception, the facility screening iPad will collect and document visitors' names, phone number, and room number of the person they are visiting and maintain records for 30 days to assist with contact tracing.

Deanwood Rehab and Wellness Center will provide this information to DC Health within 12 hours of it being requested.

- Visitors will not be allowed into any other part of the facility except designated visitation areas.
- Deanwood Rehab and wellness Center will deny entry to visitors or service providers who do not pass screening or who refuse to comply with any of the requirements.

During Indoor Visitation

- Visitation must be allowed at all times and for all residents as permitted under the regulations. The facility will not limit the frequency and length of visitation for residents, the number of visitors, or require advance schedule of visits.
- Due to the congregate setting and architectural structure of Deanwood Rehab, there are difficulties in maintaining social distancing, and for these reasons a maximum of 4 visitors will be allowed at one time for any given resident. If any group of visitors is larger than 4, they will have to take turns of no more than 4 at a time. Deanwood Rehab and Wellness Center may consider small gatherings of up to 10 people for special events or occasions.
- All visitors to Deanwood Rehab and Wellness Center will enter through the main entrance and will follow the core principles of infection prevention as outlined in this policy. Individuals will be denied entry for displaying signs and symptoms of COVID-19, answering affirmative to screening questions or for been unable to adhere to the core principles of facility's infection control protocol.
- Facilities should ensure physical distancing can still be maintained during peak visitation times and avoid large gatherings where large numbers of visitors are in the same space at the same time and physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- If a resident's roommate is not vaccinated or immunocompromised (regardless of vaccination status), visitation should not be conducted in the resident's room if possible.
- If the nursing home's county COVID-19 community level of transmission is substantial to high, all residents and visitors, regardless of vaccination status, should wear face coverings/masks and physical distance at all times.
- In low to moderate transmission areas, the safest practice is to wear face coverings/masks and physically distance.

- If all visitors and the resident are fully vaccinated and the resident is not moderately or severely immunocompromised, they may choose not to wear a face covering and have physical contact.
- Visitors should wear face coverings/masks while around other residents or health care personnel, regardless of vaccination status.
- Residents on transmission-based precautions (TBP) or quarantine, while not recommended, can still receive visitors in the resident's room. The resident should wear a well-fitting facemask (if tolerated). Visitors will be made aware of the risks of visitation, core principles of infection prevention. The facility is not required to, but may offer masks and other PPE as appropriate.
- The designated indoor visitation room is in the multipurpose room on the second floor
- Residents' rooms may also be used for visitation. If visitation occurs in resident's room; visitors must not sit or lay on the resident's bed. Visitors must treat each roommate as having a separate zone and privacy curtains must be drawn to limit direct contact. However, residents that have a private room may have visitation in their rooms but must still adhere to all infection control guidelines as specified in this document.
- Visitors will not be allowed to use resident facilities, including restrooms. Visitors will instead be directed to use restrooms that are not used by residents. Visitors should ask the facility receptionist for the location of the guest restrooms and the key to gain entry.
- Cleaning and disinfection of the resident room will occur after the visit is completed.
- Deanwood Rehab and Wellness Center will collect and document visitor's full names, phone number, full home address, email and room number of the person they are visiting and maintain records for at least 30 days to assist with any contact tracing.

After indoor visitation:

- Deanwood Rehab and Wellness Center will require visitors to clean their hands with alcohol-based hand sanitizer upon exiting the facility.
- The space designated for visitation will be cleaned and disinfected by the activity staff coordinating the visit between visitors.

- Deanwood Rehab and Wellness Center will clean and disinfect high touch surfaces (e.g., light switches, elevator buttons, door handles) in the facility at least twice a shift.

Considerations for visits to fully vaccinated residents (who are not immunocompromised):

- Physical contact between residents and visitors can occur if resident is fully vaccinated (2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2 series, or 2 weeks following receipt of a one dose single dose vaccine).
- Newly admitted or re-admitted residents who have been fully vaccinated will not require any quarantine and will be allowed indoor/outdoor visitation.
- Visitors who want to remove their masks or have close contact during start of visitation must have the ability to verify their vaccination status to the facility by either presenting their vaccination card or provide a doctor note/medical record of their vaccination.
- The resident should properly perform hand hygiene immediately before and immediately after touching the visitor. The visitor must also perform hand hygiene immediately before and after touching the resident.
- Visitors should always try to maintain 6 feet of physical distance from other residents and staff in the facility while visiting.
- Participation in small gatherings, dining and meals with other residents and families can occur; if there are less than 10 individuals all of whom are verified to be fully vaccinated. If all participants are verified to be fully vaccinated, then face mask and physical distancing is not required.
- If any participant in a gathering is unvaccinated or vaccination status cannot be verified, then all participants must wear a face mask and maintain physical distancing.

Considerations for visits to unvaccinated, partially vaccinated, and immunocompromised residents:

- While alone in the resident's room or the facility's designated visitation room, the resident can have close contact with their unvaccinated visitor

while both continue to wear a well fitting face mask. The safest approach continues to be physical distance and wear face mask.

- While outside, residents and their visitor can choose to have close contact while both continue to wear a well fitted face mask.
- Participation in small gathering events with less than 10 individuals can occur if all individuals wear a face mask and all maintain a physical distance of 6 feet.
- Meals and dining can occur if face mask is worn when not eating and physical distancing occurs.

Visitation during outbreaks investigation:

- Visitors will still be allowed into the facility, but they will be made aware of the potential risk of visiting and adhere to core principles of infection prevention.
- Visitation during outbreak will include wearing face coverings/masks, regardless of vaccination status, and visits will ideally occur in the resident's room.
- Visitors are not required to be vaccinated but encouraged to be vaccinated. Visitors who cannot or don't comply with use of surgical mask or non valve N-95 mask, social distancing, hand hygiene and other facility requirements will not be allowed to participate in outdoor or indoor visitation.
- Compassionate care visits are allowed at all times.

Ombudsman Visiting:

- Ombudsman planning on visiting a resident who is on TBP or quarantine, or unvaccinated resident where transmission is substantial to high in the past seven days, will be made aware of the potential risk of visiting. The visit will take place in the resident's room.
- If the ombudsman or resident requests alternative communication in lieu of an in-person visit, the facility, at minimum, must facilitate alternative resident communication with the ombudsman program.

Notification of a COVID-19 exposure:

- Deanwood Rehab and Wellness Center will provide all visitors with contact information and additional instructions for notifying the facility should they test positive for COVID-19 within 14 days of their visit.

- Deanwood Rehab and wellness Center Unit Manager or Designees will notify visitors of outbreaks on the unit where the resident resides, should such an event occur within 14 days of a visit, and recommend the visitor(s) seek testing.

Safe Outdoor Visitation:

- There will be one location for outdoor visitation: in the facility front parking lot under the large canopy.
- All infection control protocols, and screening requirement established for indoor visitation will also apply to outdoor visitation. Hand sanitizer will be located in the facility parking lot.

Communal Activities, Dining, and Resident Outings:

- Everyone should wear face coverings/ masks regardless of the vaccination status.
- If a resident chooses to leave the facility, they will be reminded of infection prevention practices, including face coverings/ masks, physical distancing, and hand hygiene.
- Upon return, screen residents for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.
- If possible close contact with COVID-19 outside of the nursing home, test the resident, regardless of vaccination status, and place on quarantine if the resident has not been fully vaccinated.
- If resident develops signs or symptoms of COVID-19 after the outing, test the resident and place on TBP regardless of vaccination status.
- The facility may opt to test unvaccinated residents without signs or symptoms if they leave the nursing home frequently or for a prolonged length of time.
- Facility may consider quarantining unvaccinated residents who leave facility based on assessment of risk.

References:

[cms.gov/files/document/quo-20-39-nh-revised.pdf](https://www.cms.gov/files/document/quo-20-39-nh-revised.pdf)

Screening tools Guidance: coronavirus.dc.gov/healthguidance

*Quarantine after non-essential travel to high risk
area: coronavirus.dc.gov/phasetwo*

*Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19): Indoor Visitation Requirement for Skilled Nursing
Facilities & Assisted Living Residences (last updated: March 12, 2021)*

*D.C. Health Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19): Visitation Requirements for Skilled
Nursing Facilities and Assisted Living Residences (last updated: April 25, 2021).*

*D.C. Health Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19): Visitation Requirements for Skilled
Nursing Facilities and Assisted Living Residences (last updated: May 03, 2021).*