

# **ELECTRA HOSPITAL DISTRICT ELECTRA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL**

## **HOSPITAL ENTRY AND VISITATION DURING PANDEMIC POLICY**

### **PURPOSE**

To protect the health and safety of patients, employees, and the public.

### **POLICY**

Visitation will be from 7 am – 9 pm. Electra Memorial Hospital will screen unvaccinated workforce members and all visitors prior to entry using criteria consistent with local, state and federal guidelines. Vaccinated employees will self-monitor for symptoms of COVID-19. All visitors and employees will wear masks inside the Hospital.

Screening criteria will include but not be limited to:

- Fever
- Signs or symptoms of a respiratory infection such as a cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat
- Contact in the last 14 days with someone who has a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 or someone who is under investigation for COVID-19

### **PROCEDURE**

Patient visitors will be limited as follows:

- Inpatients
  - Limited to two visitors at any given time.
  - Family members of a patient when end of life is imminent (as determined by provider).
  - No visitors under the age of 13.

- Outpatients
  - Infusion and wound care patients will be allowed to have one caregiver or visitor accompany them during treatment if space allows.
- Emergency Department
  - Two parents of a minor child who is a patient.
  - All other presenting to the ED will be allowed one visitor.
  - No visitors under the age of 18 unless approved by the ER Charge Nurse.
- Clinics
  - Clinic patients will be allowed to have two visitors accompany them during their visit if space allows.
- Visitors must pass screening, wear masks at all times and may be required to wear personal protective equipment that meets Hospital infection control requirements.
- A patient's attending physician may prohibit in-person visitation if they determine that such visitation may lead to the transmission of an infectious agent that poses a community health risk.
  - This determination must be renewed every five days.
  - The Hospital will provide a written or oral update of the patient's condition to the visitor if not prohibited by HIPAA.
  - The Hospital will notify the person who receives the daily update of the estimated date and time of patient discharge.

If visitors need to temporarily wait in the lobby, social distancing guidelines must be respected. Visitors may be asked to vacate the ER and/or waiting room at any time if needed.

## **REFERENCES**

25 Tex. Admin. Code § 133.51 (2020).

Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 241, Section 241.012