



Effective Dec. 21, 2020 (rev.6)

Hospital visitation and screening

BRMC and OGH hospital visitation is permitted for the following special circumstances:

- Obstetrics patients (OGH) – one support person and designated doula
- Pediatrics – one parent or legal guardian at a time (two parents/guardians may alternate)
- Patients at end-of-life – up to two visitors (immediate family / legal representative) at a time.
- Surgical/procedural outpatient – one visitor to accompany patient, receive discharge instructions and transport patient home.
 - Special situations will be made, on a case-by-case basis, for end of life/comfort care and other special circumstances such as visitor is essential to the care of the patient as determined by the nurse manager including COVID-19 positive patients. Specific policies are in place as determined by state regulations.

Visitor responsibilities:

- Please do not come to the hospital if you are ill or suspect you have been exposed to COVID unless to seek care.
- Visitors must remain in the patient's room for the duration of their visit unless otherwise directed by staff.
- Visitors should have identification.
- Masks must be worn at all times. Visitors who refuse to comply will be asked to leave.
- Anyone arriving at the hospital will be screened for recent travel and COVID symptoms including a temperature check prior to entering the hospital.
- Visitors are to wash their hands and use alcohol-based hand sanitizer frequently, especially before and after entering a patient's room.
- As required by the state, all visitor contact information will be documented upon entrance to the hospital.

Visitor limitations

Visitation will not be permitted for:

- All in-patients (special situations in place)
- Emergency Department except when deemed medically necessary.
- Persons with fever or other cold and flu-like symptoms
- The Pavilion at BRMC
- OGH's Marie Lorenz Outpatient Dialysis Center
- Behavioral health units at BRMC and OGH
- Minors under the age of 18 (except in rare situations, approved in advance).
- Outpatient testing and physician practices unless special circumstances.

Emergency Department visitation

- For adult patients, **no visitors are allowed in the Emergency Department, except when deemed medically necessary where the support person is essential to the care of the patient.** In these circumstances, ONE (1) support person must remain in the patient's treatment room for their entire visit except when directed by hospital staff to leave during aerosol-generating procedure or other procedures during which visitors are usually asked to leave. Staff will direct support person to a designated area. If they leave the ED proper for any reason they will not be allowed back in.

Emergency Department visitation cont'd

- The visitor with the person may accompany the patient through the initial registration process, and unit staff will call the visitor in when the patient is ready for discharge. The support person must leave the building after the registration process.
- For pediatric patients, one (1) support person is allowed in the Emergency Department, and the support person must remain in the patient's treatment room for the entire visit.
- Visitor/ support person must be greater than 18 years of age except in rare exceptions as determined by the hospital.
- Visitor / support person must be screened for COVID-19 symptoms which includes a temperature check. Any visitor with a temperature greater than 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit will not be permitted to visit.
- Visitor / support person must wear a face mask upon entry to the facility and must wear the mask at all times while inside the hospital. A cloth face mask is acceptable but must cover the nose and mouth. Visitors who fail to wear a mask will be asked to leave the building.
- All visitors will receive written information on visitation guidelines, how to perform meticulous hand hygiene. If PPE is required and you need assistance with applying a gown and gloves please ask a member of the health care team. Adherence to these procedures will be monitored by nursing staff.

Ambulatory & Same Day Surgery

- Patients undergoing same day procedures may be accompanied to the facility by a companion and 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 recovery room except for pediatrics, childbirth, and patients with an intellectual, developmental, or other cognitive disability.
- Companions/visitors will be asked to leave the building and return when called by staff.

We have taken precautions to protect and maintain our patients and your safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. As we move forward to increase visitation it is important you follow these infection control tips:

1. **Wash your hands or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer frequently, especially before and after entering a patient's room. Wash for at least 20 seconds; rub sanitizer in your hands until it is dissolved.**
2. **Safely put on your mask and keep it on for the duration of your visit.**
 - Perform hand hygiene
 - Secure elastic bands behind your ears
 - Fit flexible band to nose bridge
 - Fit snug to face and below chin
 - Completely cover nose and mouth



OGH and BRMC have taken precautions to protect and maintain your safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. As the states begin to move forward with reopening, we recognize that visitors are an important part of your recovery process. Please talk to your healthcare provider about specific risks associated with having visitors.

We apologize for any inconvenience and appreciate your cooperation.