



CHINESE HOSPITAL

845 JACKSON STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94133

Policy & Procedure#: 20.39
Section: General Administration
Date Of Origin: 1/92
Revised: 10/99, 12/02, 12/05, 11/08, 11/11,
10/14, 2/2020, 6./2020, 01/2022

VISITATION GUIDELINES

Chinese Hospital believes that patients have the right to receive visitors and to designate a support person while receiving care in the hospital. Chinese Hospital does not restrict, limit or otherwise deny visitation privileges on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identify or disability. Chinese Hospital is committed to the safety of our patients, staff and physicians. Universal Masking continues to be required for everyone prior to entering the facility.

A. Visiting Hours

1. In general, visiting hours at Chinese Hospital are based on the patient’s personal preferences and the safety of the patients.

Exception:

- Directly before and after a surgical procedure, immediate family may visit patients when they are returned to their room. Visitors are not allowed in surgery or in the Post Anesthesia Care Unit.
- Visitors may have limited access within the facility during a declared public health emergency, such as COVID-19.
- Chinese hospital staff may facilitate telephone or video conference communication between hospitalized patients and patients’ family or friends.
- Visitors may be screened for symptoms of acute illness before entering the hospital. (See Attachment A)
 - Chinese Hospital will verify that visitors are fully vaccinated or for the unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated, verify documentation of a negative SARS-CoV-2 test.
- Chinese Hospital follows California Department of Public Health (CDPH) recommendations that include the following:

2. As of January 12, 2022, visitors are not allowed except, as noted below:

Patients at End-of-Life

Visitors are essential to the mental health of patients who are at end-of-life. For their continued mental health, and well-being, the department recommends that one visitor be allowed to be present with the patient.

Patients with Physical, Intellectual, and/or Developmental Disabilities and Patients with Cognitive Impairments

- The presence of a support person is essential to patients with physical, intellectual, and/or developmental disabilities and patients with cognitive impairments. CDPH recommends that one support person be allowed to be present with the patient, when medically necessary.
- For hospitalized patients, especially with prolonged hospitalization, the patient or family/patient representative may designate two support people, but only one support person may be present at a time.
- All support persons must stay in the room and be asymptomatic for COVID-19 and not be a suspected or recently confirmed case. Support persons must be screened prior to entering

clinical areas. Support persons must comply with any health facility instructions on personal protective equipment.

3. Visitors may be requested to leave when patient or staff requests privacy during treatment or care or when the treatment poses a risk of infectious exposure to the visitor.
4. The nursing supervisor must give permission for any visitors to remain overnight with the patient. Permission will be granted based on the needs of the patient.
5. Visiting hours are modified in certain specialty areas as follows: when there is **no** declaration of a pandemic or public health emergency:
 - a) **Intensive Care Unit:** The frequency and length of visitation is limited due to the level of care needed by the patient. At a minimum, two members of the immediate family may visit based on the needs of the patient.
 - b) **Post Anesthesia Recovery Unit:** No visitors at any time.
 - c) **Same Day Surgery:** One visitor based on the needs of the patient.
 - d) **Emergency Department:** One visitor at a time or at the discretion of the healthcare team.

B. Visitor Designation

1. Patient with decision-making capacity - Patients may designate visitor of his or her choosing, whether the visitor is related by blood or marriage, unless:
 - No visitors are allowed per patient request.
 - The facility reasonably determines that the presence of a particular visitor would endanger the health or safety of a patient, a member of the health facility staff, or other visitor to the health facility, or would significantly disrupt the operations of the hospital.
 - The patient has indicated to the hospital staff that the patient no longer wants this person to visit.
2. Patients lacking decision-making capacity - Immediate family or person living in the household may visit with the patient according to the visitation guidelines in place.

REFERENCES:

State Public Health Officer Order: Amending the Order of August 26, 2021
[Requirements for Visitors to Healthcare Settings Flyer](#)
[Requirements for Visitors in Acute Health Care and Long-Term Care Settings Q&A](#)
CDPH [All Facilities Letter 20-22](#)
CDPH [All Facilities Letter 21-14](#)
CDPH [All Facilities Letter 21-31](#)