



Indoor/Outdoor Visitation Policy

Revision Date: 11/19/2021

POLICY:

The facility recognizes that physical separation from family and other loved ones takes physical and emotional toll on residents and their loved ones. The facility aims to ensure residents and their visitors have safe and protected indoor /outdoor visitation during visitation, and ensuring an adequate degree of privacy for residents and their visitors.

PURPOSE:

To provide a visitation program that is safe, minimizing the risk of infection/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 masking and social distancing requirements, how to summon Inspire 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 Inspire Rehab.

When indoor visitation begins:

- Inspire Rehab will limit indoor visitors to people who can comply with masking, social distancing requirements and facility's infection prevention principles.

- Children under the age of 18 visiting Inspire Rehab must always be accompanied by a guardian and must be able to comply with face mask and social distancing requirements.
- Our visitation policy has been revised and Inspire will now permit visitors who reside either in a single household or different households to visit at the same time.
- 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. Movement within the facility should be limited as visitors should not walk around different halls in the facility. Rather, they should go directly to the resident's room or designated visitation area.
- There is no limit to the frequency and length of visits for residents, the number of visitors, or required advance scheduling of visits. However, visits will be conducted in a manner that adheres to the core principles of COVID-19/infection prevention and does not increase risk to residents as well as staff.
- Duration of the visits and capacity may also be determined by how well facility staff can safely accommodate the number of visitors as well as provide adequate amount of staff to ensure safety precautions enforced.
- Large gathering which large numbers of visitors are in the same space at the same time and social distancing cannot be maintained will not be allowed during visitation.
- Inspire Rehab 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.
- Individuals visiting Inspire Rehab must not be under quarantine after non-essential travel to a high-risk state as defined on [coronavirus.dc.gov/phase two](https://coronavirus.dc.gov/phase-two), or for international travel to a Level 3 (high-risk) country as defined in the DC Health Travel Guidance.
- Inspire Rehab 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. Cloth masks will not be permitted. See section on

“Consideration for visits to fully vaccinated residents” for exceptions to this guidance.

- The receptionist/designee 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.
- Inspire Rehab will provide this information to DC Health within 12 hours of it being requested.
- Inspire Rehab will deny entry to visitors or service providers who do not pass screening or who refuse to comply with any of the requirements.
- Visitors who are unable to adhere to the core principles of COVID-19/infection prevention will not be permitted to visit and asked to leave.

During Indoor Visitation

- All visitors to Inspire Rehab 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.
- Visitors must wear a surgical mask or N-95 mask with no valve during the entire visit.
- Residents must wear a cloth face covering or surgical face mask during the visit, including the transition to and from the indoor visitation location. See section on “Consideration for visits to fully vaccinated residents” for exceptions to this guidance
- Indoor visitation designated visitation location is the small resident dining room. Visitors must only visit the resident they intend to visit at the designated visitation location.
- The designated indoor visitation room is Resident Lounge (also known as Small Dining Room), located in Lobby Level of the facility.
 - Indoor visitation is limited to areas that allow for appropriate social distancing and must not exceed the maximum capacity limitation of the space.

- The visitation area will only be used by one group of visitors and the resident at a given time. The facility may use the main dining room if not in use.
 - The visitation area will be reserved for the residents and their designated visitors.
 - The visitation area is ventilated and has specified entries, exits, and pathways that minimize exposure to other residents.
- Resident rooms can be used for visitation as accommodation for residents who cannot access the area being used for indoor visitation due to a variety of health concerns. If visitation occurs in a 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.
 - While the designated visitation areas are preferred for visitation, the facility will not deny in-room visitation except if it violates the facility's core infection control principles and puts others at risk.
 - If a resident's roommate is unvaccinated or immunocompromised (regardless of vaccination status), visits will not be conducted in the resident's room, if possible.
 - 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.
 - Inspire Rehab 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:

- Inspire Rehab will require visitors to clean their hands with alcohol-based hand sanitizer upon exiting the facility or resident room.

- The space designated for visitation will be cleaned and disinfected by the environmental staff frequently.
- Inspire Rehab will clean and disinfect high touch surfaces (e.g., light switches, elevator buttons, door handles) in the facility at least twice a shift.
- Inspire Rehab will not allow other residents in the area where visit is taking place until visitations are completed and the area is cleaned and disinfected.

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.
- Residents who are fully vaccinated can choose to have close contact, including touching with their visitors.
- 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 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.
- Unvaccinated residents may also choose to have physical touch based on their preferences and needs.
- 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.
- While not recommended, residents who are on transmission-based precaution (TBP) or quarantine can still receive visitors. In these cases, visits should occur in the resident's room and the resident should wear a well fitted facemask if tolerated. Visitors should be aware of the potential risk when visiting a resident on TBP and must wear all required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

Visitation during outbreaks:

- While it is safer for visitors not to enter the facility during an outbreak investigation, visitors will be allowed. Visitors must understand they are risk for getting infected or infecting others. Visitors must abide by all infection control protocols should they decide to visit. Restriction of visitation during an outbreak will only apply based on guidance from DC Health recommendations.
- 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

Notification of a COVID-19 exposure:

- Inspire Rehab 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.
- Inspire Rehab 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 two locations for outdoor visitation: 1) in the facility front courtyard where two benches are located under the large magnolia tree 2) in the facility front courtyard adjacent to the front entrance on the pavement in front of the rehab gym window.
- Outdoor visitation is preferred when the resident and or visitor are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Outdoor visits generally pose a lower risk of transmission due to increased space and airflow
- All infection control protocols and screening requirement established for indoor visitation will also apply to outdoor visitation with some exceptions.
- Hand sanitizer will be located in the facility front courtyard.

Communal Activities, Dining & Resident's Outing:

- While adhering to the core principles of infection control, communal activities, dining and resident's outing may occur. The safest approach is for everyone, regardless of vaccination status to wear a mask while in communal activities.

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](https://www.coronavirus.dc.gov/healthguidance)

Quarantine after non-essential travel to high risk area: [coronavirus.dc.gov/phasetwo](https://www.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).

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services: Nursing Home Visitation Revised November 19, 2021. Reference: QSO-20-39-NH