

ST. CLAIR AMENDS VISITATION POLICY

There is no greater responsibility than that to assure all who come to our campus are 'safe in our hands'. With the increased prevalence of COVID-19 in southwestern Pennsylvania, and on advice of its medical experts, **St. Clair will suspend routine visitation effective December 5 until further notice.**

In lieu of in-person visitation, patients can stay closely connected to their loved ones via FaceTime, Skype, or Facebook Portal. Our clinical staff have been trained to facilitate patients' use of these platforms.

Exceptions to the no in-person visitation policy may be granted by St. Clair's clinical care staff on a case-by-case basis. Those who receive an exception to visit a patient on campus must be screened for cough, fever, difficulty breathing, and/or contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

CIRCUMSTANCES WHEN AN EXCEPTION MAY BE APPROVED INCLUDE:

Inpatient Units	A designated family member may contact the patients' Nursing Unit to coordinate a time to be on-site for discharge education for patients who require additional support.
Family Birth Center	Only one birth partner will be permitted and is asked to stay in the patient's room for the duration of the stay.
Pediatric Unit	Only one parent or guardian will be permitted and is asked to stay in the patient's room for the duration of the stay.
Outpatient Surgery or Invasive Procedure	Only an essential Support Person* arranged in advance may accompany the patient. Drivers are asked to drop off and pick up patients at the Professional Office Building entrance. Patient Escorts will be available at the door to assist with mobility and directions as needed.
Emergency Department	We ask that only one person accompany the patient as far as the intake desk to get them safely in our care, then exit the building and return when called to assist the patient in getting home. Exceptions will be made for minors, patients unable to make decisions, and other permitted circumstances.
Outpatient Appointments at the Hospital (doctors' offices and diagnostic services including Lab, Medical Imaging, etc)	A Support Person* is only permitted when absolutely necessary and arranged in advance with the office.

***A Support Person is someone essential to the clinical care of a patient.**

They would include:

- Parent or guardian of a minor (under age 18);
- Someone who provides translation services in the case of a language barrier;
- Immediate family member or designated agent when a patient is unable to make decisions for themselves (e.g. cognitive impairment);
- Caregiver or immediate family member whose presence is essential to help the patient receive care.

Thank you for your understanding. Please know safety will always remain our first priority.