

VISITATION OF JNH RESIDENTS

1. PURPOSE AND APPLICABILITY. This policy establishes the rules, regulations, and procedures regarding visitation of residents. It applies to all residents, employees, and visitors for Jaquith Nursing Home (JNH) residents.

2. POLICY.

A. Each JNH resident has a right to receive visitors of their choosing at the time of their choosing, subject to the resident's right to deny visitation when applicable, and in a manner that does not impose on the rights of another resident. Subject to the resident's consent, this includes, but is not limited to visits with: State and federal officials (e.g. Surveyors); Representatives of the Office of the State Ombudsman; His or her own physician; Representatives from protection advocacy organizations; Family; Personal attorney; and His/her resident representative.

B. JNH staff will provide visitors immediate access to the resident, subject to reasonable clinical and safety restrictions, and the resident's right to deny or withdraw consent at any time.

C. Reasonable clinical and safety restrictions will only be implemented to protect the health and security of all residents and staff and may include, but not be limited to:

(1) Restrictions placed to manage the spread of community-associated infections or communicable diseases which will include taking into account the resident's risk factors for infection (e.g. immunocompromised condition) or current health state (e.g. end-of-life care). In general, visitors with signs and symptoms of a transmissible infection (e.g. flu like symptoms) should defer visitation until he or she is no longer infectious. In circumstances where a sick visitor is visiting a resident at the end of the resident's life, the visitor should always practice appropriate hand hygiene and cough etiquette during the visit.

(2) Denying access when visitors are suspected of abusing, exploiting, or coercing a resident; or have been found to have committed abuse, exploitation, coercion, or criminal acts such as theft.

(3) Denying access when visitors are intoxicated or disruptive.

(4) Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult visitor at all times. Children are not allowed to run in the service area and not allowed to enter rooms other than the resident's room they are visiting.

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SUPERSEDES: June 2021.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES: Removed requirement for visitor to stop at hostess desk. Replaced the word unit with service or service area throughout the policy.

ER: JNH Director

DR: JNH Executive Committee.

(5) Visitors arriving outside of normal business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday) may be asked to visit in designated visiting areas to respect the privacy of other residents.

(6) Visitors may be prohibited from visiting a resident if there is such an order from the attending physician, or if there is recommendation from the treatment team because of clinical or safety concerns.

D. Photographs of residents taken by family members

The resident or resident representative should inform the nursing staff on admission if they will allow or not allow anyone to take photographs/video of the resident. The resident or representative may set restrictions on photographs/video such as informing the service social worker or staff specifically who may and/or who may not take photographs/video of the resident. To protect the privacy, dignity, and confidentiality rights of the resident and others, family who wish to photograph/video a resident must inform staff, and staff will ensure the resident appears comfortable with being photographed/videoed and that no other residents are photographed/videoed.

E. Residents have the right to privacy with their visitors. Every effort will be made by JNH staff to provide an area of visual and auditory privacy for visitation.

3. PROCEDURE.

A. Upon arrival, the visitor will be greeted by Mississippi State Hospital (MSH) Police at the front gate who will record on the MSH "Daily Traffic Flow Report" the visitor's name, reason for visiting, number of persons in the car, license plate number, county, and the time of arrival.

B. The MSH Police will provide the driver with a MSH "Visitor Pass" to be placed on the dashboard of the car. The MSH Police will instruct the visitor to go directly to the residents' buildings.

C. The JNH Health Records Clerk or nurse on duty will advise the visitor of the policies of JNH as enumerated above and inform them if the service area is on quarantine.

D. The visitor will completely fill out the Visitor Record (JNH-39), and give it to the JNH Health Records Clerk or nurse on duty.

E. The JNH Health Records Clerk or nurse on duty will check visitor record for completion, and forward to assigned social worker and:

(1) Ensure that there are no clinical or safety restrictions in the resident's chart.

(2) Inquire as to the content of any packages for resident. If resident is on a special diet, inform visitors for resident's safety. Advise visitor that residents are not permitted to maintain foods, beverages, or tobacco products in residents' rooms due to both security and housekeeping concerns. Items will be inventoried by JNH personnel, identified by resident name, and stored in designated area for access by resident per his/her request.

(3) Direct the visitor to the designated visiting area: resident's private bedroom or the visitor's room (Bed bound residents are allowed visitors in their room.).

F. When the visitor exits the front gate, the MSH Police will recover the "Visitor Pass" card. The MSH Police will reconcile the number of persons in the car at the time of exit to the time of arrival and record that number on the "Daily Traffic Flow Report."