

Visitation Policy and Procedures

Policy Statement

The Mayflower has established processes and procedures to safely allow visitation in SNF based on most recent guidelines from regulatory/advisory bodies including AHCA, CMS, and/or from the State of Florida- DEM.

This facility allows in-person visitation from anyone at any time regardless of vaccination status, unless the resident objects the visit, and provided the visitor complies with the infection control measures imposed by the facility.

The Mayflower reserves the rights to change policies and procedures at any time depending on updated guidance from these bodies.

Core Principles

The Mayflower will follow the core principles consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance for nursing homes. Mayflower's visitation process will be person-centered, and will consider the residents' physical, mental, and psychosocial well-being, and will support their quality of life. Infection Control Process will be strictly implemented. Visitors who are unable to adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention will not be permitted to visit or will be asked to leave. By adhering to these core principles, visitation can occur safely and risk of Covid19 entry to facility will be reduced.

Core Principles

- Visitors who have a positive viral test for COVID-19, symptoms of COVID-19, or currently meet the criteria for quarantine should not enter the facility until they meet the criteria used for residents to discontinue transmission-based precautions. This facility will screen all who enter for these visitation exclusions.
- Hand hygiene (use of alcohol-based hand rub is preferred)
- Face covering or mask (covering mouth and nose) and physical distancing at least six feet between people, in accordance with CDC guidance
- Instructional signage throughout the facility and proper visitor education on COVID19 signs and symptoms, infection control precautions, other applicable facility practices (e.g., use of face covering or mask, specified entries, exits and routes to designated areas, hand hygiene)
- Cleaning and disinfecting high-frequency touched surfaces in the facility often, and designated visitation areas after each visit
- Appropriate staff use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Effective cohorting of residents, if possible (e.g., separate areas dedicated to COVID-19 care)
- Resident and staff testing conducted as per current guidance.

General Guidelines

- The Mayflower is open for visitation anytime. We, however, strongly encourage visitation from 10 am to 6pm daily, unless during end of life or crisis situations which can take place anytime.
- While there is no limit on the number of visitors that a resident can have at one time, visits should be conducted in a manner that adheres to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and does not increase risk to other residents.
- All visitors will be screened prior to entry. Screening will be in the main lobby. Once cleared, visitors will proceed to the second floor and sign in to the visitor's binder located at the nurse's station. Visitors who have a positive viral test for COVID-19, symptoms of COVID-19, or currently meet the criteria for quarantine will be denied entry until they meet the criteria used for residents to discontinue transmission-based precautions.
- All visitors must limit movement in the facility. (example, visitors should not walk around different halls of the facility; visitors must go directly to the resident's room or designated visitation area). Visitors are not allowed in dining room, nourishment room, kitchen area, Plymouth room or in any common area inside the health center other than the designated visitation area/s, and in the nursing station when checking in, and when there is a need to talk to staff.
- Visitors may be required to sign a form to acknowledge agreement to visitation policies and procedures including basic education on PPE and infection control measures in the facility.
- All visitors must sign in and out in the facility's visitor log.
- All visitors must immediately inform the facility if they develop a fever or symptoms consistent with COVID-19, or test positive for COVID-19 within 48 hours of facility visit.
- The facility Infection Preventionist is designated as the person responsible for ensuring that staff adhere to the policies and procedures.

Visitor Covid19 Testing / Vaccination

- Visitors are not required to be tested or vaccinated as a condition of visitation.
- The Mayflower does not require visitors to submit proof of any vaccination or immunization.
- While not required, the Mayflower may offer testing when county community transmission rates and/or positivity rates are at high levels, if feasible.
- The Mayflower strongly encourages all visitors to become vaccinated. Visitor testing and vaccination can help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

**Face Covering
and Physical
Distancing
during visits**

- Visitors should wear face coverings or masks and physically distance when around other residents or healthcare personnel, regardless of vaccination status.
- If Orange county's COVID-19 community level of transmission is substantial to high, all visitors and residents, regardless of vaccination status, should wear face coverings or masks and physically distance, at all times. Residents will be encouraged to wear mask as tolerated.
- If Orange county's Covid-19 community level of transmission is low to moderate transmission, the safest practice is for residents and visitors to wear face coverings or masks and physically distance, particularly if either of them is at increased risk for severe disease or are not up-to-date with all recommended COVID-19 vaccine doses. Residents, regardless of vaccination status, can choose not to wear face coverings or masks when other residents are not present and have close contact (including touch) with their visitor
- Residents (or their representative) and their visitors, who are not up-to-date with all recommended COVID-19 vaccine doses, will be advised of the risks of physical contact prior to the visit.
- The Mayflower will offer well-fitting facemasks or other appropriate PPE.
- All visitors will be monitored for adherence to appropriate use of PPE and social distancing through random observations by staff. The facility will attempt to mitigate any concern of visitor's non-compliance to infection prevention and control requirements. Continued non-compliance may result to restriction or revocation of visitation privileges/rights.

**Indoor/
Outdoor
Visitation**

- The Mayflower offers both indoor and outdoor visitation.
- The Mayflower will accommodate outdoor visitation upon availability of designated outdoor visitation area. Outdoor visitation is preferred when the resident and/or visitor are not up-to date with all recommended Covid-19 vaccine doses.
- Indoor visitation is allowed at all times and for all residents as permitted under the current regulations. The facility does not require advance scheduling of visits.
- Although there is no limit on the number of visitors that a resident can have at one time, visits should be conducted in a manner that adheres to the core principles of COVID19 infection prevention and does not increase risk to other residents.
- If a resident's roommate is not up-to-date with all recommended Covid19 vaccine doses or immunocompromised regardless of vaccination status, visits should not be conducted in the resident's room, if possible. For situations where there is a roommate and the health status of the resident prevents leaving the room, the Mayflower will attempt to enable in room visitation while adhering to the core principles of infection prevention.

Visitation during Outbreak

- While it is safer for visitors not to enter the facility during an outbreak investigation, visitors are still allowed in the facility. Visitors will be made aware of the potential risk of visiting during an outbreak investigation and adhere to the core principles of infection prevention.
- While not recommended, residents who are on transmission-based precautions (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-fitting facemask (if tolerated).
- If residents or their representative would like to have a visit during an outbreak investigation, they should wear face coverings or masks during visits, regardless of vaccination status, and visits should ideally occur in the resident's room.

Federal Disability Rights Laws and Protection and Advocacy (P&A) Programs

- Representatives of P&A programs are permitted access to all residents, which includes "the opportunity to meet and communicate privately with such individuals regularly, both formally and informally, by telephone, mail and in person."
- If communicating with individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, the facility may use a clear mask or mask with a clear panel- pending availability.
- Face coverings will not be placed on anyone who has trouble breathing or is unable to wear a mask due to a disability, or anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance
- If a resident requires assistance to ensure effective communication (e.g., a qualified interpreter or someone to facilitate communication) and the assistance is not available by onsite staff or effective communication cannot be provided without such entry (e.g., video remote interpreting), the facility must allow the individual entry into the nursing home to interpret or facilitate, with some exceptions. This would not preclude this facility from imposing legitimate safety measures that are necessary for safe operations, such as requiring such individuals to adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention.

Entry of Healthcare Workers and Other Providers of Services

- All healthcare workers will be permitted to come into the facility as long as they are not subject to a work exclusion or showing signs or symptoms of COVID-19. In addition to health care workers, personnel educating and assisting in resident transitions to the community should be permitted entry consistent with this guidance.
- EMS personnel do not need to be screened, so they can attend to an emergency without delay.
- All staff, including individuals providing services under arrangement as well as volunteers, should adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and must comply with COVID-19 testing requirements.

References

1. CMS QSO-20-39-NH: Nursing Home Visitation - COVID-19 Rev 03/10/2022
2. Chapter 2022-34 Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill no 988

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