

# Visitation Policy

## Maternal Child Services: Labor and Delivery, Couplet Care and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)

The time of giving birth and the hours after birth are critical times where parent/baby bonds are formed and feeding patterns established. This is best accomplished when parents and babies have uninterrupted time to establish these bonds and patterns.

This visiting policy has been developed with ongoing feedback from our patients, who both verbally and through a large survey, expressed their preference for having fewer visitors and more uninterrupted time with their babies.

Access is allowed with proper identification as defined in hospital and unit-specific policies.



**We encourage our patients to designate ONE primary support person who may visit 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.**

**Labor and Delivery** Patients may have three (3) visitors/coaches at any one time in the room. Visiting is allowed at the discretion of the Provider and with the permission of the patient. These visitors/coaches may visit 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and may be present throughout labor and delivery. Individuals providing Doula services are not counted in the number of visitors. All visitors/coaches must be older than 18 years of age. No siblings are allowed to visit until after delivery.

**Couplet Care** Patients may have ONE primary support person who may visit 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Regular visitation hours for all other visitors are 8am-8pm. Maximum of three visitors at any given time. Siblings who are visiting must be accompanied/supervised by an adult at all times. Exclusion: children will not be allowed to visit patients who are on isolation precautions unless reviewed and approved by Infection Prevention Department. No other children will be allowed to visit.

**Neonatal Intensive Care Unit - NICU:** Two (2) visitors are allowed at the bedside at a time EXCEPT during change of shift (0630-0800 and 1830-2000). Parents and grandparents only. One parent must accompany the grandparent when they are visiting.

Siblings must be older than 2 years of age and may visit one time per week. Siblings who are visiting must be accompanied/supervised by an adult at all times. They must be free of illnesses and must follow infection control protocol. Visitation of siblings may be periodically suspended during RSV/Flu season.

Thank you for supporting our new families in getting the best start possible.

Sincerely,  
*Your Maternal Child Care Team*



*Caring for Generations.*