



Policy and Procedure: Outdoor Visitation Guidance

Facility: Heartland Senior Living LLC	Approved by Ellen Strohl, RN
Effective: June 30, 2020	Revised:

This Policy may change or be revised based on CDC/CMS/State Public Health Department changes or recommendations

POLICY:

This facility recognizes the positive impact family visits can have on the residents and their loved ones especially during this COVID-19 pandemic. This facility will begin to allow outdoor visits for residents when certain criteria are met. No visits may occur inside the facility – restroom access is restricted; the facility will allow outdoor visits only. Residents who are on isolation due to a positive diagnostic test for COVID-19 or are symptomatic and suspected of having COVID-19, but have yet to test positive, may not participate in outdoor visits. Each resident will be restricted to two visitors at a time. The following is the criteria and procedure to allow outdoor visits for residents and their loved ones.

PROCEDURE:

- This facility must ensure that a minimum distancing of six feet is achievable in the outdoor space when determining the maximum number of residents and visitors who can simultaneously occupy that outdoor space.
- This facility must clearly communicate and enforce social distancing of six feet between the resident and all visitors.
- Visits must be limited to outdoor areas only.
 - For the duration of each visit, the resident and visitor must wear a face covering
- Visits may take place under a canopy or tent without walls.
- A schedule of visitation days and hours must be established, time limits will be established.
 - Our facility's schedule will be Monday through Friday, 11:00am and 3:00pm.
- This facility has a maximum number of 16 visitors allowed in a single day and no more than 2 visitors per resident.
- Visits will be monitored by a staff member during each visit to ensure the use of face coverings and social distancing.
- Visits will be timed and can last up to 30 minutes.
- Only 1 visit will be scheduled per designated area in order to adhere to social distancing which is 6 feet apart between any two people.



- Adequate staff must be present to allow for personnel to help with the outdoor transition of residents, monitoring the visits, and wiping down visit areas after each family, partner or friendship visit.
- Areas where visitors and residents sit must be wiped down between visits using an approved antiviral disinfectant - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/reopen-guidance.html>
- The facility will prescreen visitors via phone with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) symptom checklist not more than 24 hours in advance.
 - Prior notice of “no restroom access” would be helpful.
- On arrival, resident visitors must be screened for signs and symptoms of COVID, including a temperature check (non-contact temperature check).
- Visitors displaying symptoms should not visit the facility.
- Residents receiving visitors must also be screened with the CDC symptom checklist prior to visitor’s arrival.
 - There must be adequate PPE to permit residents, if they are able to comply, to wear a face mask during visit. Visitors must bring their own face masks for the visit to not draw down on the facility’s stock.
 - Outdoor visit spaces must allow appropriate social distancing
 - Facility must provide alcohol-based hand rub to families visiting residents and demonstrate how to use it appropriately if necessary
 - Facility may establish additional guidelines as needed to ensure the safety of visits and their facility’s operations
- Residents must have the ability to safely transition from their room to an outdoor visiting location
 - Residents who have had COVID-19 must no longer require transmission-based precautions as outlined by the CDC.
 - Prioritization for visits should be for residents with diseases that cause progressive cognitive decline (e.g., Alzheimer’s disease) and residents expressing feelings of loneliness. Loneliness can have deleterious consequences, including increased risk of depression, suicidal thoughts, aggressive behaviors, and anxiety.
 - Residents who can should wear a face mask during the visit.

Visitor Criteria:

- Visitors must review and sign the Waiver of Liability relating to COVID-19
- Visits must be limited to two visitors at a time per resident.
- Visitors must schedule an appointment with the facility to visit a resident.
- **Visits will be coordinated by the Activity Department by calling (217) 895-2665**
- Visitor will wait in their car until it is time for their visit.
- Visitor must not enter through the facility to get to designated area or to use the restrooms.
 - Must wear a face covering or mask during the entire visits.
 - Must use alcohol-based hand rub before and after visit.
 - Must stay in designated visiting location.



- If social distancing is not adhered to, the visitors will be asked to end the visit.
 - Visits should be restricted to children 12 years of age or older. Visitors with children must be able to manage them and children must be able to wear a face mask during the entire visit. Special family circumstances warranting children under the age of 12 to visit can be approved on an individual basis.
 - Must sign in and provide contact information.
 - Must not have signs or symptoms of COVID-19; visitors must also attest to their COVID status (if testing results) and if they have had COVID-19, they must provide documentation (e.g., doctor's note) that they no longer meet CDC criteria for transmission-based precautions.
 - Visitors may provide food and beverage to the resident consistent with dietary considerations but eating and drinking during the visit is PROHIBITED.

Weather: Visits should occur only on days when there are no weather warnings that would put either visitors or residents at risk. Furthermore, visiting spaces must provide adequate protection from weather elements (e.g., shaded from the sun).

The facility would still retain the right to deny outdoor visits if they believe, 1) circumstances pose a risk of transmitting COVID-19 to the facility, or 2) either the resident or visitors might be at risk of harm.