

***Gonzales Healthcare Systems***  
**Policy**

**Subject:** Patient Visitation Rights

**Purpose:** To ensure that all patients enjoy equal visitation privileges consistent with patient preferences and subject to the hospital's clinical restrictions and to comply with CFR §482.13(h) – Patient Visitation Rights

**Originating Department:** Administration – Memorial Hospital Only

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**Policy:**

The visitation policy applies to all hospital inpatients, regardless of their payment source, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation or disability.

Upon admission each patient will be given information regarding the hospital visitation policy. This information will include any clinical restriction or hospital limitation on such rights.

Each patient, (or support person where appropriate), has the right to consent to receive visitor(s) whom he/she designates, including, but not limited to, a spouse, a domestic partner (including a same sex domestic partner), another family member, or a friend, and has the right to withdraw or deny such consent at any time.

Gonzales Healthcare Systems ensures that all visitors will enjoy full and equal visitation privileges consistent with patient preferences.

**Potential Clinical Restrictions**

Flexibility is allowed to balance all patient needs. With respect to restrictions on visitation, when visitation would interfere with the care of the patient and/or the care of other patients, it would be considered clinically appropriate to place a restriction.

Examples include, but are not limited to, patients undergoing care interventions or when there may be infection control issues. Other situations where restrictions are appropriate include disruptive, threatening or violent behavior, a patient's need for rest or privacy, existing court order restricting contact of which the hospital is aware. Limitations may be placed on the number of visitors during a specific period of time. Based on the patient's condition, a minimum age requirement for child visitors or a physician order limiting visitation may be necessary.

For the care, safety and security of our patients Gonzales Healthcare Systems limits:

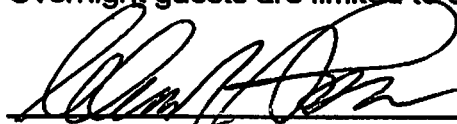
- Emergency Room visitors - two visitors at a time.
- Obstetrics visitors - two visitors at a time.
- Special Care Unit – two visitors at a time.
- Surgical Unit – no visitors – only exceptions are for minor children and translation purposes. This is to protect the safety and confidentiality of our patients.
- Medical Surgical Floor – Unless order by the physician or requested by the patient Gonzales Healthcare Systems does not limit visitors.

Gonzales Healthcare Systems does not allow underage overnight guest.

Regular visiting hours are 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Overnight guests are not permitted in semi-private rooms to ensure the safety and privacy of both patients.

Overnight guests are limited to one guest per person in private rooms.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Administrator / CEO

6/10/14  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Governing Board President

6-10-14  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date