

Sapphire of Tucson Nursing & Rehab COVID-19 Visitation Policy/Procedure

Policy: In order to provide a healthy and safe environment for our residents, staff and visitors during the COVID-19 pandemic, Sapphire of Tucson will be implementing the following visitation policy in accordance with the guidelines from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Arizona Department of Health Services, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Notification of residents and family

Residents and families will be notified of this policy/procedure via telephone, Facebook and the Sapphire of Tucson website.

Rationale

- To establish procedures for screening and training visitors.
- To establish procedures for compassionate care visitation.
- To establish procedures to implement progressive re-opening.
- To establish enhance environmental cleaning and sanitation routines where visitation will occur.

Requirements/Mitigation Measures for all Visitation

Signs will be posted at the entrances to the facility advising visitors to check-in with the front desk to be screened for [symptoms consistent with COVID-19](#) prior to entry. Screen visitors for:

- a. Fever ($T \geq 100.0^{\circ}\text{F}$) or chills
 - b. Cough
 - c. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - d. Fatigue
 - e. Muscle or body aches
 - f. Headache
 - g. New loss of taste or smell
 - h. Sore throat
 - i. Congestion or runny nose
 - j. Nausea or vomiting
 - k. Diarrhea
1. Restrict anyone with fever, symptoms, or known exposure from entering the facility.
 2. Upon entry all visitors must present a negative COVID test (either PCR or antigen/point of care) that is less than 48 hours old and sign an attestation (see attached) that they have isolated since the test and are symptom free.
 3. Inform all the visitors that the facility requires mask-wearing by residents (when safe), and visitors.
 4. Educate visitors on proper hand hygiene, and they must sanitize (alcohol-based hand rub) hands before visiting.
 5. Ask visitors to inform the facility if they develop fever or symptoms consistent with COVID-19 within 14 days of visiting the facility.

6. The facility will maintain a visitor log for contact tracing purposes.
7. The facility will deny access to the premises of any visitor who refuses to comply with any mitigation measures.
8. Outdoor visitation may only occur when outdoor temperatures are considered safe according to the resident's individual medical condition and plan of care.

Benchmarks for Progressive Re-opening Visitation

The facility will follow ADHS Requirements for Visitation at Congregate Settings for Vulnerable Adults.

Facility will follow ADHS definitions of community spread as depicted below.

Benchmarks	Minimal	Moderate	Substantial
Cases	<10 cases/100,000	10-100 cases/100,000	>100 cases/100,000
Percent Positivity	<5%	5-10%	≥10%
COVID Like Illness	<5%	5-10%	>10%

Minimal Community Spread: Evidence of isolated cases or limited community transmission, case investigations underway; no evidence of exposure in large communal setting.

Moderate Community Spread: Sustained transmission with high likelihood or confirmed exposure within communal settings and potential for rapid increase in cases.

Substantial Community Spread: Large scale, controlled community transmission, including communal settings (e.g., schools, workplaces).

The facility will use the CMS COVID-19 Nursing Home Data dashboard to determine the level of community spread of COVID-19.

ADHS Requirements for Visitation at Congregate Setting for Vulnerable Adults and Children

Community Spread Level	Minimal	Moderate	Substantial
Compassionate Care Visitation	X	X	X
Limited Outdoor Visitation	X	X	N/A
Limited Indoor Visitation	X	N/A	N/A Except that Ombudsman must be able to visit
Symptom Screening of All Visitors	X	X	N/A

Cloth Face Covering Required	X	X	N/A
Physical Distancing (6 Feet)	X	X	N/A
Cohorting		X	N/A
Communal Spaces Closed		X	N/A

Note: Limited outdoor visitation only occurs when outdoor temperatures are considered safe according to the resident's treatment plan and individual medical condition.

The facility will follow the established public health benchmarks before offering expanded in-person visitation:

- Cases: A two-week period with new case rates below 100 per 100,000
- Percent Positivity: two weeks with less than 10% positivity rate
- COVID-like Illness Syndromic Surveillance: two-weeks with hospital visits due to COVID-like illness below 10%
- No Outbreak: The facility must not have any outbreak in the previous two-weeks (14-day) period. An outbreak is defined as one or more laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases among residents or staff with onsets within 14 days, who are epidemiologically linked, and do not share a living space
- The facility has sufficient staff
- The facility has sufficient personal protective equipment for staff, visitors and residents, as needed

Compassionate Care Visits

- Compassionate care visits include visits for end-of-life or terminal diseases. These visits also include visits by necessary healthcare professionals (including medical, dental, and behavioral healthcare) and professionals assisting individuals with disabilities, including the use of licensed sign language interpreters and other communication service providers.
 - Compassionate care visits are allowed regardless of the level of community spread.
 - Visitors will be limited to a specific room only
 - Visitors are to maintain social distancing (6 feet) and limit contact with the environment as much as possible.

Additional Visitation Types

- Health care workers who are not employees of the facility but provide direct care to our resident's, such as hospice workers, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel, dentists, laboratory technicians, radiology technicians, social workers, clergy, etc., are permitted to come into the facility as long as they are not subject to a work exclusion due to an exposure to COVID-19 or show signs or symptoms of COVID-19 after being screened. Therapy dogs are permitted; however, the handler must adhere to the visitation policy.
- Regulatory and investigative personnel who are not employees of the facility but ensure the health and safety of residents, such as law enforcement, ADHS/CMS licensing surveyors, APS investigators, and health plan quality assurance investigators, etc. are permitted to come into the facility as long as they are not subject to a work exclusion due to an exposure to COVID-19 or show signs or symptoms of COVID-19 after being screened.

- Residents may designate one or two family members or caretakers to serve as a “Designated Essential Visitor”. The “Designated Essential Visitor” may visit at any time during the normal (pre-COVID-19) visitation hours, or in cases of emergency, as long as the following conditions are met:
 - The Essential Visitor must present the facility documentation of a negative COVID test (either PCR or antigen) on the same testing interval required by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for facility staff:
 - Minimal Community Spread Level (percent positivity <5%): once a month
 - Moderate Community Spread Level (percent positivity 5%-10%): once a week
 - Substantial Community Spread Level (percent positivity >10%): twice a week
 - The Essential Visitor must sign an initial attestation that they will avoid attending large gatherings in between testing and visitation.
 - The Essential Visitor must attest on each visit that they are free from symptoms.
 - The Essential Visitor must be at least 18 years of age.
 - The facility requires mask-wearing by residents (when safe), visitors, Designated Essential Visitor, and staff.
 - The Essential Visitor must utilize hand sanitizing before the visit.
 - The Essential Visitor sign in and out of the visitor log for contact tracing purposes.
 - The resident has the discretion to change their Designated Essential Visitor in accordance with facility policy.

Ombudsman

- Visitation by the ombudsman is allowed during all levels of community spread as they are essential workers.

General Visitation

- Residents on the COVID Unit and residents considered Persons Under Investigation (PUI) Unit are not permitted to have visitors.
- Family and Friends visitation may occur as benchmark reopening measures allow and if all mitigation measures are met and followed.
- Hairstylists, educators, entertainers, and volunteer’s visitation may occur as benchmark reopening measures allow and if all mitigation measures are met and followed.
- Visitors who are unable or are unwilling to adhere to the requirements of COVID-19 prevention as noted in this document, such as wearing a mask at all times and maintaining physical distancing, will not be permitted to visit and if in the facility, will be asked to leave.

Visitor Access to Resident’s Room

- Only if the resident does not have a roommate/share a room, or is bed bound.
- A mask must always be worn by the visitor and the resident (when safe).
- The visitor must wash their hands before entering and when leaving the room.
- Visitor is to remain 6 feet from all residents and staff
- Visitor may not use the resident’s restroom
- Visitors are only allowed in the resident’s room less than 15 minutes

Facility Specific Visitation Policy

- The facility visitation hours are Monday thru Friday, 2PM to 6PM, and Sunday from 11AM to 3PM.
- The facility's resident visitation is by appointment only, except for Designated Essential Visitors as outlined above.
- Only two (2) visitors are allowed per resident for 15 minutes.
- Only twelve (12) visitors are allowed in the facility at any one time.
- Only two (2) visits permitted per day, per resident.