

Tower Health Visitation Restrictions

Updated March 16, 2020

Tower Health is committed to protecting the safety of our patients, staff, and community. To do our part in reducing the spread of the COVID-19 virus, we are implementing the following visitor restrictions and screening policies at **all Tower Health facilities** until further notice:

- **No visitors will be permitted on any hospital unit. Exceptions will be considered when:**
 - the patient is a minor (under 18),
 - the patient has a disability,
 - the patient is in the emergency department or psychiatric emergency department,
 - the patient is in a maternity unit,
 - the visitor is the patient's communicator, or
 - the patient is at end of life.
- **In the NICU, Inpatient Pediatric Units, Pediatric Emergency Department, Maternity Units, and pediatric physician practices:**
 - Parents and guardians of pediatric patients are permitted.
 - Doulas are considered part of the care team and are permitted.
- **In the Emergency Department and Psychiatric Emergency Department:**
 - One designated support person is permitted.
 - No switching of visitors back and forth.
- **At Reading Hospital Rehabilitation at Wyomissing:**
 - No visitors, except medically necessary visitors, will be permitted.
 - No children under the age of 18 or pets will be permitted.
- **In physician practices, urgent care practices, and ambulatory surgery locations:**
 - One designated support person is permitted.
 - No switching of visitors back and forth.
 - Visitors must remain in the waiting area unless:
 - the patient is a minor (under 18),
 - the patient has a disability, or
 - the visitor is the patient's communicator.

The patient's care team will make a decision on a case-by-case basis as to whether the visitor is clinically appropriate, including when the visitor in question is a family member supporting the patient by providing care. In the event there is a conflict about whether a visitor may enter, clinical judgment will prevail.

All approved visitors must be screened in accordance with guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH). Screening will occur at all location entry points.

Your health, safety, and comfort are our top priorities. These restrictions will be continuously evaluated as the COVID-19 situation evolves and are subject to change based on guidance from the CDC and PA DOH.

In an abundance of caution, we will also take the following precautionary measures:

- All activities that invite community members to **any** Tower Health facility for events or educational programs will be cancelled until further notice.
- Volunteer services will be restricted to only those that are clinically required.
- Permitted vendors will be restricted to only the clinically necessary, including those working on active projects, repairs, technology, or equipment.
- Delivery of food, flowers, or other items from outside sources will be restricted.