

Harnett Health Visitor Management

Update 09.18.24

Starting Wednesday, September 18th, Harnett Health facilities welcomes visitors of all ages free of contagious illnesses to most units in our hospitals with a few exceptions. All minors must be accompanied by an adult.

Visitation hours are **7 a.m. to 8 p.m.**

The health system no longer will require masks for patients or visitors in the waiting rooms of Emergency Departments unless a person is experiencing respiratory symptoms.

Patients are allowed up to four visitors at a time and visitors may come and go during those hours. All patients are allowed to have one visitor stay overnight in their room if space allows, but overnight visitors must be in the hospital before visiting hours close, and cannot leave and return after 8 p.m., until visiting hours reopen the next day. Visitors to patients who are under any isolation protocols must follow any restrictions required for that patient.

In the Emergency Department, visitors will be allowed in the waiting room. These patients may have 2 visitors at a time 24/7 unless modifications need to be made by Harnett Health Leadership.

The following exceptions and specifications are noted with this visitation policy:

- Pediatric patients: Parents/legal guardians may visit at any time. Only parents/legal guardians may add visitors to the list for pediatric patients. **Visitors must be 12 years old and up.**
- Patients who need a healthcare decision maker or require communication assistance may always have one Care Companion with them. The Care Companion may be changed during visiting hours.
- End of Life patients may have up to four visitors at a time present at bedside. These visitors may be changed out during the End-of-Life visit. In certain circumstances, the nursing supervisor may allow for compassionate exceptions to this rule for End-of-Life patients.

Even in the above situations, we kindly request visitors with symptoms of a fever or respiratory illness symptoms, including cough or shortness of breath, remain home.