

Tower Health – St. Christopher’s Hospital for Children Visitation Restrictions

Updated April 13, 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 **St Christopher’s Hospital for Children** until further notice:

- **In Inpatient Areas and the Emergency Department:**
 - Parents and guardians of pediatric patients are permitted.

- **In the NICU:**
 - Only two parents are allowed at the bedside.
 - Visitation times: **EITHER** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. **or** 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.
 - Parents must visit either on the day shift or the night shift, **not** both, to avoid potential exposure to both shifts of healthcare workers.
 - Parents are to enter and exit the hospital only once per day.
 - You may leave the NICU to go to the cafeteria and take a meal break in the atrium but please limit this to once per visit. This helps limit contact with others throughout the hospital as much as possible.
 - All parents will be re-screened for COVID symptoms or exposure, including temperature checks, before entering the NICU at the time of your daily visit.
 - All parents must wear a mask when entering the NICU and during their visit in the NICU.

- **In physician practices, urgent care practices, and ambulatory surgery locations:**
 - One designated support person is permitted.
 - No switching of visitors back and forth.

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.