Visitor Guidelines for Hospital Patients in Isolation for COVID-19

At Mercy, we understand how much visits mean to hospital patients and their families, especially for patients with COVID-19. At the same time, the safety of our patients, visitors and co-workers is our top priority.

The guidelines below are intended to keep everyone safe from this highly contagious virus.

- If you had a positive COVID-19 test in the last 10 days or have COVID-19 symptoms, we ask that you seek medical care and isolate at home.
  - If you were exposed to this patient or others with COVID-19 (and haven't had COVID-19 yourself within the last 90 days), the CDC advises that you wait 10 days before visiting a health care facility.
  - Exceptions may be allowed for compassionate visits. Contact the patient's care team prior to visitation.

- Please check with the nursing staff before each visit. The staff will make sure you have the correct personal protective equipment (PPE) on for your safety.
  - Required PPE includes an isolation gown, gloves, a level 2 or higher mask and eye covering such as a shield. (Note: personal eyeglasses are not sufficient to protect you).
  - Keep all of this on while in the room. If you remove any part of your PPE, you'll be asked to leave. COVID-19 is highly contagious and we practice strict isolation precautions.
  - Use hand sanitizer before and after visiting the patient.

- Once you're in the room, please remain in the room. Once you have concluded your visit, please remove all PPE other than your mask at the door to the patient's room, use hand sanitizer and exit the hospital. Please don't visit the cafeteria, gift shops or other common areas. This is to reduce the risk that you may transmit COVID-19 to others around the hospital. Please understand there is an increased risk of becoming infected with COVID-19 when you enter the room.

Thank you for helping us maintain a safe place for everyone.

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