

University of Mississippi Medical Center Grenada
Temporary Revised Visitation Policy
March 14, 2020

The University of Mississippi Medical Center Grenada (UMMC Grenada) is committed to keeping our patients, staff, students and visitors safe as we respond to the spread of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). As part of our commitment, we are taking proactive measures to help prevent the introduction and spread of COVID-19 at our hospitals.

UMMC's hospitals in Jackson and Lexington will operate under a separate revised visitor policy.

Based on the increasing incidence of COVID-19, effective immediately and until further notice, UMMC Grenada will implement a revised visitor policy for all hospital facilities as follows:

- Adult patients are not permitted to have visitors except in certain circumstances outlined below.
- Pediatric patients are permitted to have only two adult visitors, but both must be parents, guardians or caregivers.

The exceptions to this revised visitor policy include:

- Obstetric patients may be accompanied by one visitor.
- Adult patients who have been determined by the care team to be at the "end-of-life" may be visited by members of the immediate family.
- Adult patients with disruptive behavior, for whom a family member is essential to their care, may have one visitor.
- Adult patients who have altered mental status or developmental delays (where a caregiver is necessary to assist) may have one visitor.
- Adult patients undergoing surgery or procedures may have one visitor before and during the procedure for both inpatient and outpatient procedures. For inpatients, the visitor must leave the hospital as soon as possible after the procedure has been completed and the patient is in a room.
- Adult patients who have an appointment at a UMMC Grenada hospital-based clinic or procedure unit, as well as those visiting the Emergency Department, may be accompanied by one visitor. The visitor must stay in the clinic or procedure area during their time in the hospital facility.
- Visitors are not permitted in adult isolation rooms under any circumstances.
- Every effort will be made to grant requests from a patient or family member for a visit from a chaplain, chaplain intern, Eucharistic minister, community clergy or other spiritual leader.

Other exceptions not listed above will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

All patients and visitors will be screened. Visitors who exhibit symptoms associated with respiratory illness (fever, runny nose, cough, shortness of breath) or report they have recently visited an area identified as a location experiencing a COVID-19 breakout will not be allowed to enter under any circumstances.

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Visitors allowed entrance according to the revised policy or under one of the above listed exceptions must stay in the patient's room during the entirety of their visit until ready to leave the facility. Exceptions to this should be requested from and granted by the unit's nursing staff.

Approved visitors who leave the hospital outside of the revised visiting hours will not be able to re-enter the hospital until the following day. The revised visiting hours are 6 a.m.-6 p.m.

We encourage our patient families to consider remote visits using telephone or video chat.

In addition to visitation restrictions, frequent handwashing is always encouraged to protect our patients, employees, students and visitors from the spread of germs and viruses. The safety of our patients and personnel is always our top priority, and we will continue to do all we can to ensure a safe environment to give and receive care.