

**CATSKILL REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
HARRIS, NY ** CALLICOON, NY**

Patient Care Services Policy and Procedure Manual

Subject: Family, Visitors and Visiting Hours	Policy Number: RI 1019
Approval: VP Medicine	Page: 1 of 2
TJC Standard: RI 01.01.01	NYSDOH Reg:
Date of Origin: 8/77	Date Reviewed: 5/81, 9/95, 5/96, 3/00, 4/03, 8/05, 9/24/06, 10/26/11, 6/30/14
Initiator: Case Management Services	Date Revised: 10/95, 11/96, 3/97, 8/98, 9/00, 9/01, 4/04, 07/23/09, 06/03/2010, 01/13/2011, 1/25/12, 3/25/13, 6/30/14
Concurrences: VP Nursing, Director of Community Services, Security	

PURPOSE: To establish hospital policy regarding visiting hours for different areas of the hospital.

PROCEDURE: The hospital informs the patient (or support person, where appropriate) of their visitation rights. Visitation rights include the right to receive the visitors designated by the patient, including, but not limited to, a spouse, a domestic partner (including same-sex domestic partner), another family member, or a friend.

Family for hospital wide visitation means any person who plays a significant role in an individual's life. This may include a person(s) not legally related to the individual. Members of the "family" include spouses, domestic partners, and both same-sex and different-sex significant others.

A minor patient's parents are regarded as family, regardless of the gender of either parent. Solely for purposes of visitation policy, the concept of parenthood is to be liberally construed without limitation as encompassing legal parents, foster parents, same-sex parents, step-parents, those serving in loco parentis, and other persons operating in caretaker roles.

At any time if a patient wishes to withdraw their right to receiving visitors they may do so.

POLICY: Please note that all visiting hours are to be flexible and that the patient has a

right to unlimited contact with visitors.

The hospital allows a family member, friend or other individual to be present with the patient for emotional support during the course of the stay. The hospital allows for the presence of a support individual of the patient's choice, unless the individual's presence infringes on others' rights, safety or is medically or therapeutically contraindicated. The individual may or may not be the patient's surrogate decision-maker or legally authorized representative.

The patient has a right to free and private communication with persons of his/her choice in the organization or community.

The hospital complies with the laws and regulations for individuals allowed immediate access to the patient and exempted from normal visiting hours.

The patient has a right to refuse to talk to persons not associated with the hospital or not directly involved in his/her care, i.e. visitors, vendors, accreditation surveyors and representatives of community organizations. The hospital ensures that patient's privacy and security are considered in all interactions with other individuals. All visitors will respect each patient's right to privacy.

Suggested visiting hours are:

MEDICAL: 9AM—9PM Daily

BHU: 11—12PM Daily
6 PM—8 PM Daily

CCU: As determined on an individual basis. CCU visiting is determined by the Nurse depending on the patient's condition, needs and activity in the unit. Generally, visitors are restricted to two family members at a time for a period of 10 minutes. No visiting between the hours of 7 AM to 10 AM unless approved by patient care team.

MATERNITY: 12:30 PM—8:30 PM
Immediate family may visit any time.

EXCEPTIONS: None

**RELATED
POLICIES:** None

REFERENCE: TJC Standards 2014