



Visitation During Outbreak of Illness

Revised 4/2024

We understand the importance of families visiting their loved ones, therefore, we are implementing the following strategies to continue to prevent the spread of illness and ensure the health and well-being of our residents, staff and visitors.

The following will be the protocol, in adherence to OPWDD regulations, that Head Injury Association staff, the individuals and their families will be expected to follow in order to ensure safe and enjoyable visits during outbreak of illness.

1. All visitors will be expected to participate in an initial health screening, following the same pre-entry protocol as staff. Visitors must undergo symptom and temperature checks and shall be denied visitation if they report any COVID-19, FLU or Influenza Like symptoms or have a temperature of 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit or over.
 - a. The results of this screening are to be documented on the programs' Staff/ Visitor Log for the day which will also include name and contact information, as well as the location within the facility/property that visitation occurred.
 - b. All visitors should be 18 years of age or older, except in rare exceptions as determined by the facility.
2. We encourage visitation to occur outside of day program hours, from 4:00p – 8:00p, Monday thru Friday, and 10:00a – 8:00p, Saturday and Sunday.
3. All such visitation needs to be prearranged a minimum of 24 hours in advance and scheduled by family members with house management. We strongly recommend visits be staggered in half hour intervals so as not to have multiple families visiting in a shared space at one time and to ensure adequate time to disinfect between visits.
4. All other residents will be notified ahead of time that visitors will be present and advised how to remain socially distant from them. All visitors will be expected to remain socially distant from fellow residents and staff members.
5. Head Injury Association will thoroughly discuss the potential risks and benefits of the visitor's presence with the visitor and the resident ahead of a scheduled visit.
6. Visitation in the outdoor areas (weather permitting) within the grounds is strongly encouraged; for infection-control purposes.
 - a. When visitation outdoors cannot occur, visits may occur in single bedrooms, ideally no more than two visitors will be permitted. Visitors should remain in the resident's room throughout the visit.
 - b. Visitation inside the facility shall only occur in a designated area where disinfection, social distancing, and separation from other residents can be safely implemented.

7. Facemasks must be worn by all visitors for the duration of the visit. The use of gloves and gowns is at the discretion of the visitor. All such PPE will be supplied by the agency as needed, but will need to be discarded by the family members on their own accord.
 - a. Visitors must sanitize their hands upon arrival and perform meticulous hand hygiene throughout the visit.
 - b. The use of cloth masks, or other homemade masks (e.g. bandanas, scarves) is not allowed for visitors to wear during visitation.
8. House management staff are to ensure that program staff, individuals and associated families follow this protocol to the best of their and their staff's ability.
9. Management staff are expected to forward any person expressing issues or problems with any of the limitations or prohibitions contained in this protocol to their immediate supervisor.
10. This protocol is strictly in the context of on-site visitation by non-agency persons; particularly family members.
11. This protocol is established based upon guidance that is available at this time, and is subject to change, without notice, as such guidance is modified.