

Helen Purcell
Policies and Procedures

Department: ALL

Subject: COVID-19 Visitation Policy

Date: 7/20/21

Revised 3/24/23

Policy Effective Date: **Immediately**

COVID-19 Visitation Policy

It is the policy of the Helen Purcell Home to strive to minimize and/or prevent the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) through our facility, while letting family and friends visit their loved ones. Helen Purcell is following the policies of the Center for Disease Control, and the recommendations of the Muskingum County Department of Health, and our Medical Director as they relate to Residential Care Facilities.

The following procedures are to be followed:

1. Visitors are asked not to enter the facility to prevent transmission to others if they have met any of the following three criteria:
 - a positive viral test for SARS-CoV-2 within the last 14 days
 - symptoms of COVID-19, (*cough or difficulty breathing or two or more of the following: fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, sore throat, body aches, headache or new loss of taste or smell, GI symptoms (vomiting, nausea, diarrhea), congestion or runny nose*), or
 - close contact with someone with SARS-CoV-2 infection within the last 14 days.
2. All individuals 2 years and older are required to wear a surgical mask which is provided by Helen Purcell, or you may wear your own N-95 mask when Muskingum County transmission rates are moderate or high. This includes all outside providers and contractors.
3. All visitors will be asked to wash hands or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer upon entry to facility.
4. Visits will be permitted for all residents (regardless of vaccination status), except for circumstances when the number of visitors at one time should be limited due to high risk of COVID-19 transmission. Contributing factors for high risk of COVID-19 are:
 - Case status in surrounding community;
 - Case status in the facility;
 - Access to adequate testing for residents and staff;

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- Personal protective equipment supplies; and
 - Local hospital capacity.
5. Ensuring the health and wellness of our residents is always our top priority.
 6. If a resident is unable to wear a face covering, such as a Memory Care resident, increasing the social distance between resident and visitor will be encouraged.
 7. A resident who is COVID-19 positive or suspected of COVID-19 and who is in quarantine may participate in visitation.
 8. If a visitor is visiting a resident that is COVID-19 positive the visitor would be required to wear the following Personal Protective Equipment:
 - N-95 face mask
 - Gown
 - Gloves
 - Face shield
 9. Visitors would be limited to children and resident's spouse (if applicable) on COVID-19 positive residents.
 10. Hand sanitizer shall be made available to visitors and residents for use before, after and during the visit.
 11. Failure to comply with these policies could result in future visitation requests being disallowed for the non-compliant individuals.
 12. A restroom will be available during inside visitation.
 13. Visitors shall be notified about potential for COVID-19 exposure in the facility, and shall adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention, including effective hand hygiene and use of surgical/procedure masks.

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