

George E Wahlen Ogden Veterans Home	Clinical Services Policy and Guidelines for Implementation
SUBJECT Visitation Policy	NUMBER 563-564

PURPOSE: Clarify Resident Right to have visitors according to his or her preference. Clarify resident rights regarding accepting or denying visitors and implementation of reasonable clinical and safety restrictions.

POLICY: The facility will communicate the resident right to have visitors, to include associated limitations and restrictions. The resident has the right to receive visitors of his or her own choosing at the time of his or her own choosing; subject to the resident's right to deny visitation when applicable, and in a manner that does not impose on the rights of another resident.

GUIDELINES:

1. The facility will inform each resident (or resident representative, where appropriate) of his or her visitation rights and related facility policy and procedures, including any clinical or safety restrictions or limitation on such rights, the reasons for restrictions or limitations and to whom the restrictions apply.
2. If limitations are placed on a resident's visitation rights, the clinical or safety reason for such limitations and the specific details on how the restrictions apply, will be communicated to the resident or resident representative in a manner he or she understands.
3. The facility will inform each resident of the right, subject to his or her consent, to receive visitors who s/he designates, including but not limited to, a spouse (includes a same-sex spouse), a domestic partner (includes a same-sex domestic partner), another family member, or a friend, and his or her right to withdraw or deny such consent at any time.
4. The facility does not restrict, limit, or otherwise deny visitation privileges on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity. Sexual orientation, or disability.

5. The facility will support the visitation in that visitors enjoy full and equal visitation privileges consistent with resident preferences.
6. The facility will provide immediate access to the resident by the immediate family or other relatives of the resident, subject to the resident's right to deny or withdraw consent at any time.
7. For purposes of this regulation and policy, immediate family is not restricted to individuals related by blood, adoptive, or marital ties or a State's common law equivalent. Residents have the right to define their family.
8. The facility will provide immediate access to a resident by others who are visiting with the consent of the resident, subject to reasonable clinical and safety restrictions and the resident's right to deny or withdraw consent at any time.
9. The facility will provide reasonable access to a resident by any entity or individual that provides health, social, legal, or other services to the resident, subject to the resident's right to deny or withdraw consent at any time.
10. Resident family members are not subject to visiting hour limitations or other restrictions not imposed by the resident.
11. With the consent of the resident, facility will provide 24-hour access to other non-relative visitors, subject to reasonable clinical and safety restrictions.
12. If visitations rights infringe upon the rights of other residents, the facility will find a location other than a resident's room for visits.
13. The facility will provide space and privacy for visits with individuals who provide health, legal, social or other services as requested.
14. Reasonable clinical and safety restrictions include, but may not be limited to:
 - a. Restrictions placed to prevent community associated infection or communicable disease transmission to the resident. A resident's risk factors for infection is considered when restricting visitors.
 - i. Visitation is deferred for visitors with signs or symptoms of transmissible infection in accordance with CDC guidelines, and/or local health department recommendations.
 - ii. Visitation is modified in accordance with CDC guidelines, CMS guidance, and guidance of the local health department during communicable disease outbreak(s).

- a. Visitation during an outbreak is not recommended but is allowed, including visitation for residents on transmission-based precautions.
 - b. Visitors are advised of potential risks and are made aware of necessary precautions and infection control principles.
 - b. Facility practice to keep the facility locked or secured at night with a system in place for allowing visitors approved by the resident.
 - c. Denial of access to a resident, or provision of limited and supervised access to an individual, if suspected of abusing, exploiting, or coercing a resident or staff, until an investigation into the allegation has been completed or has been found to be abusing, exploiting, or coercing a resident.
 - d. Denial of access to individuals who are inebriated or disruptive.
 - e. Denial of access to individuals who have been found to have committed a criminal act such as theft.
 - f. Denial of access to individuals who are inebriated or disruptive.
 - g. To the extent to which facility administration has knowledge of illegal substances brought into the facility by a visitor, visitation may be denied, or supervision provided as feasible to protect resident health and safety.
15. Assistance of local law enforcement is sought as warranted to assist with searching for or confiscating illegal substances or paraphernalia that are not in plain sight.
16. The facility does not engage in conducting searches of the resident or their personal belongings unless consent from the resident or resident representative has been obtained.
17. The Administrator is responsible to ensure the visitation policy is adhered to by staff.

References	
Regulation(s)	483.10(f)(4)(vi), 483.10(f)(4)(ii)-(v)
FTag(s)	F563-F564
Other References	
Version	V4 6.28.23