

**Memorandum**

Date: August 10, 2021
To: DSH -Patton Visitors, Families & Friends
From: DSH-Patton Executive Policy Team
Subject: Resuming In-Person Visitation

Department of State Hospitals – Patton is resuming in-person visitation effective Wednesday, April 21st. Tele-visits will also remain available at this time. All in-person visits will take place in our Secure Treatment Area (STA) Visiting Center. Visitation protocols were developed DSH-wide based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the California Department of Public Health. All visits must be scheduled in advance via the DSH-Patton webpage under ‘Visitor Information’. In-person visits can be scheduled beginning today April 19th for visits on April 21st and beyond. The attached protocol provides details on visitation procedures and scheduling. For more information or to schedule a visit, please visit the DSH-Patton visitation page: https://www.dsh.ca.gov/Patton/Visitor_Information.html

General Guidelines:

- In-person visitation may be modified or suspended based on the hospital’s current COVID-19 conditions or as recommended by CDC, CDPH, and local Public Health Department guidance.
- Effective July 14, 2021, all patients regardless of vaccination status are permitted to have in-person visits.
- Patients in isolation with active COVID-19 disease are not permitted to have in-person visitors until released from isolation.
- If the unit is on quarantine, the patients on that unit may not have in-person visits until quarantine is lifted. Tele-visits will be held on-unit.
- Patients residing on Admission Observation Units are not permitted to have in-person visits.
- Each patient is allowed up to two adults per scheduled adult visit. During children visits each patient is allowed up to three visitors. Visitors can be in the combination of one adult and two minors or two adults and one minor.
- No food or drink is allowed during visitation.

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Scheduling:

- All in-person visits must be scheduled in advance through the DSH-Patton webpage. This is the website address for the visitation page:
https://www.dsh.ca.gov/Patton/Visitor_Information.html
- Once a visitor is approved the visitor will be notified of their approval and instructed to register for a visit using the form available here: [Visit Request and Scheduling](#)
- Times for scheduled visits: 8:30, 9:30, 1:00, 2:00
- All visits are limited to one hour due to scheduling and infection control measures.
- In-person visits can be scheduled on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday for all time slots. Children visits only are scheduled on Saturday afternoon at 1:00 and 3:00.
- Tele-visits can be scheduled on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday for 8:00, 9:00, 10:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00.

Screening and Testing Protocols:

- Visitors should arrive 30 minutes in advance of their scheduled visit to allow time for screening and testing protocols.
- Visitors are screened for COVID-19 including:
 - Signs and symptoms of COVID-19
 - Close contact with individuals with COVID-19 in the prior 14 days
 - Having their temperature taken.
 - Visitors who are screened out will be asked to leave the hospital immediately and reschedule the visit.
- All visitors are required to provide proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test (PCR or Antigen collected within 72 hours of the visit) at the time of the scheduled visitation to be allowed to participate in an in-person visit. Hospitals reserve the right to deny visitation based on infection prevention measures not included in these guidelines.
 - CDPH Guidance for Vaccine Records Guidelines & Standards states that only the following modes may be used as proof of vaccination:
 1. COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card (issued by the Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control & Prevention or WHO Yellow Card) which includes name of person vaccinated, type of vaccine provided, and date last dose administered); OR
 2. a photo of a Vaccination Record Card as a separate document; OR
 3. a photo of the client's Vaccination Record Card stored on a phone or electronic device; OR
 4. documentation of COVID-19 vaccination from a health care provider; OR
 5. digital record that includes a QR code that when scanned by a SMART Health Card reader displays to the reader client name, date of birth, vaccine dates and vaccine type.

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The QR code must also confirm the vaccine record as an official record of the state of California, OR

6. documentation of vaccination from other contracted employers who follow these vaccination records guidelines and standards.

In the absence of knowledge to the contrary, a facility may accept the documentation presented as valid.

- Antigen Testing of visitors age 4 or older will be offered at the time of the visit for in-person visitation if negative PCR, negative antigen test results or if proof of vaccination is not provided. Visitors without proof of vaccination or negative COVID-19 test will not be allowed to visit.
- **Visitors with a positive antigen test will be asked to leave the hospital immediately and reschedule the in person visit**

Infection Control Protocols:

- Facilities will limit number of patient visits per appointment session to three-six (3-6) in order to maintain infection control precautions.
- Infection prevention measures are performed by hospital staff before and after each visit, including cleaning of tables, chairs, commonly touched surfaces, etc.
- Hand hygiene should be performed by both parties before and after the visit.

During the Visit:

- Visitors and residents shall wear masks for source control during visitation. The only exception is children under the age of 2. Surgical masks will be provided and required to be worn by visitors at the hospital.
- Visitors and patients shall maintain social distancing during the visit.
- Fully vaccinated patients can choose to briefly touch visitors at the beginning and end of each visit while wearing a mask (such as a hug or handshake).
- Visitors shall maintain social distancing from other patients and staff.
- All other facility policies related to visiting regulations, attire, and allowable items remain in effect.
- **Physical Contact:** Physical contact between patients and children will be permitted only when authorized by the Interdisciplinary team and when supervised by staff on a one-on-one ratio. **(A brief hug upon initiating the visit and a brief hug upon termination of the visit is the only physical contact allowed in an attempt to protect patients, staff, and visitors from Corona Virus (COVID-19)).**

EXECUTIVE POLICY TEAM
Department of State Hospitals - Patton

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