

**Acadia Center for Nursing + Rehabilitation
Policy and Procedure**

POLICY: VISITATION RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

PAGE: 1 OF 3

Revised Date: 2.20.2024, 9.19.2024

Responsibility

This policy will be covered both verbally and in writing at time of admission by the Admissions Department.

VISITATION RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- The facility shall provide immediate access to a resident by immediate family, (including same-sex spouses), and other relatives of the resident, subject to the resident's right to deny or withdraw consent at any time.
- The facility shall 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.
- The facility shall 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.
- **The facility shall not restrict, limit or otherwise deny visitation privileges on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability.**
- The same-sex spouse of a resident shall be afforded treatment equal to that afforded to an opposite-sex spouse if the marriage was valid in the jurisdiction in which it was celebrated.
- The facility shall ensure that all visitors enjoy full and equal visitation privileges consistent with resident preferences.
- Also, refer to infection control isolation policy with respect to any restrictions on visitors during infectious disease outbreaks or the resident's medical condition warrants such restrictions.

Spousal Visitation:

- Husbands, wives, and same-sex spouses requesting private time with their spouses will be accommodated as feasible.
- The facility asks that such requests be made in advance, as it is our policy not to deny this need unless medically contraindicated.

Sign in:

- All visitors must sign the Visitor's Sign-In book located at the reception desk.
- During hours when the reception desk is closed, visitors must make their presence known to either the Nursing Supervisor or the Unit Charge Nurse.
- Children are allowed to visit, but must remain under the direct supervision of an adult at all times.

Acadia Center for Nursing + Rehabilitation
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PAGE: 2 OF 3

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Visiting areas are as follows:

- Front lobby;
- individual resident rooms;
- lounges;
- patios;
- Dining rooms, except at meal times (12:00pm -1:00pm for lunch, 5:00pm -6:00pm for dinner).

OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES:

Smoking:

Acadia is a smoke free facility & campus. Smoking is prohibited anywhere on the facility grounds. Please do not bring lighters or matches into the facility.

Food:

- Visitors who wish to bring in food items should clear it with the Dietitian. The Dietitian is available to counsel family members or visitors on any caloric, therapeutic or mechanical restriction to help provide appropriate guidelines for food being brought in. In the absence of the dietitian, the nursing supervisor shall counsel the visitor, if needed.
- Family/visitors will be educated on safe food handling practices at time of admission.
- Food items that can be stored at room temperature (ex. cookies, candy) must be stored in airtight containers in residents' rooms.
- All cold or hot food that will not be consumed during a visit must be placed in a sealed container, dated and labeled with the resident's name and room number and given to a unit nurse to be stored in the unit resident refrigerator at the appropriate temperature. Food not consumed will be discarded after 24 hours.
- If the food item needs to be heated, a family member/visitor shall be given access to heat up the item in an available microwave.
- Nursing staff will assist resident, as needed, with the consumption of the food item.
- No alcoholic beverages are to be kept in residents' rooms. Alcoholic beverages are permitted only on the order of the resident's physician and are to be stored and administered only by Acadia Center personnel.
- The food policy will be discussed with family members upon admission and at care plan meetings.

Companion and/or guest meals:

For a nominal charge, guest meals may be provided in the resident's room by contacting the Dietary Department twenty-four (24) hours in advance.

Electrical Equipment:

- All electrical equipment for resident personal use shall be prohibited unless examined and installed by the Maintenance Supervisor and will be removed if this policy is not followed. These include:
 - Televisions
 - Radios
 - Electric Razors
 - Computers
 - Fans
 - Electronics (eg. CD/DVD players).

Acadia Center for Nursing + Rehabilitation
Policy and Procedure

PAGE: 3 OF 3

Revised Date: 2.20.2024, 9.19.2024

- The following electrical items are **not permitted** in resident rooms:
 - Hair Dryers
 - Irons & curling irons
 - Electric Heaters
 - Lamps
 - Floor fans
 - Electric blankets
 - Heating pads
 - Personal refrigerators
- **EXTENSION CORDS AND POWER STRIPS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN RESIDENT'S ROOMS.**

Personal Items and medications

- All furniture and personal items must be examined and cleared by the Maintenance Supervisor prior to installation in resident's rooms.
- Personal hygiene items, such as mouthwash, lotions, soaps, or non-aerosol perfumes, scissors, or nail clippers must be cleared with the Nursing staff.
- Talcum powder, hairspray, aerosols, rubbing alcohol, peroxide, or razors are **not permitted** in resident rooms.
- Prescription or over-the-counter medications, including topical creams, are **not permitted** in resident rooms and are not to be brought into the facility.

Vases:

Glass vases are not permitted in resident rooms. Containers made of non-breakable material, such as plastic, should be used.

Excess furniture and clothing:

- Any personal furniture that impedes the Nursing or Housekeeping Departments from accomplishing the proper caring tasks of our residents will have to be removed from the resident's room. We will notify you of any existing furniture being utilized in the resident's room that has not been approved by our Safety Committee.
- Do not place items on top of the over-bed light fixture.
- Bring in only the necessary clothing needed by the resident. All excessive clothing or articles will be given to the designated representative to take home.
- This policy is for the safety of the resident and the consideration of others.

Newspaper Delivery:

At the resident's request, newspapers can be delivered to them. The resident is responsible for payment. Contact the Recreation Department.

Out-of-facility trips/visits

- A resident may leave the facility "out-on-pass", for a short time or overnight, with medical clearance from their attending physician. In order to ensure that appropriate preparations are made, we require adequate notice to prepare for an "out-on-pass" (e.g.; day trips at least one day in advance, overnight trips at least three days in advance).
- You must sign the release at the nurse's station prior to exiting the facility.

Emergencies:

In the event of an emergency, visitors will be responsible for following the directions given by Administration or other authorized personnel.