

**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY MANUAL**

PATIENT-DIRECTED VISITATION

Effective Date:	03/99	Policy No:	AD114
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PURPOSE

To establish visitation guidelines based on the desires and needs of our patients.

Hackettstown Regional Medical Center (HRMC) recognizes that family, and/or whomever the patient defines as family, is the most important constant factor in each patient's life. Family refers to any person(s) determined by the patient to fulfill this significant role. This may include person(s) not legally related to the patient.

To create a peaceful and healing environment in which patients feel nurtured and supported.

POLICY

There are no established visiting hours at HRMC. Visitation is patient-directed, recognizing that the support of family and friends contributes to our patients' comfort and recovery. Occasionally, due to special circumstances, visitation may be postponed for the safety of our patients and visitors.

PROCEDURE

A. Visitation Guidelines

1. Staff will follow the patient's wishes whenever possible.
2. Visitors with a cold, sore throat or other contagious illness should delay visiting until they are well. Visitors should follow appropriate hand hygiene practices.
3. Visitors must check in at the information desk and wear the appropriate identification while in the hospital. Night access (8:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.) is through the Emergency Department entrance. Registrars should notify the Nursing Unit of the visitor. Night Supervisor must be notified of nighttime visitors by the Nursing Unit. Visitors to the ICU and the Childbirth Center will have to check in again at the door to the unit.
4. Children are welcome to visit but they must be accompanied at all times by a watchful adult and remain at the bedside or in appropriate public waiting areas.
5. Visitors should be quiet and respectful, helping to maintain a healing environment for all patients. Nursing units may designate a quiet time to limit disruptions and allow time for patients to rest.
6. Visitors may be asked to leave the room during examinations, tests, treatments and change-of-shift rounds. They should be directed to nearby waiting areas and notified when they can return to the patient's room.