

**** UPDATE TO PATIENT VISITOR POLICY (Effective May 10, 2021) ****

Dear Patients,

I am writing to share that we are taking steps to update our patient visitation policy. The policy changes reflect some easing of the severity of the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States, recognizing that the pandemic is not yet over and the fact that our patients derive great benefit from the presence of family members and other care givers. Our number one priority remains protecting health and safety of patients and their care givers, as well that of your NIH healthcare providers.

As of Monday, May 10, 2021, the NIH Clinical Center will operate with the following visitor restrictions:

Inpatient Visitation

- **Adult inpatients (includes ICU) may have one visitor at any given time during visiting hours.**
- **Pediatric inpatients (18 and under) may have up to two visitors at any given time during visiting hours.**
- **Inpatients at the End of Life may have two visitors at any given time.**

Outpatient Visitation

- **New adult outpatients (first visit) coming to the Clinical Center may have one visitor accompany them.**
- **Adult outpatients undergoing surgery/sedated procedures may have one visitor.**
- **Pediatric outpatients may have two visitors.**

Visitors who display symptoms during our screening process, such as a fever or cough, will not be permitted to proceed further into the NIH Clinical Center. Rooming in must be approved. Discuss with your primary team.)

The visitor policy changes have been made after much careful deliberation. Throughout the pandemic, we have engaged in ongoing discussions with a number of hospitals also dealing with COVID-19. This is the time to begin changing a few of the restrictive practices.

I thank you for abiding by this new visitor policy. Many of you have also cooperated with us during the time when more restrictive policies were in effect and we could not be more grateful. As always, thank you for your understanding.

If you have any questions or concerns that you wish to discuss, please contact me at James.Gilman@nih.gov

Sincerely,

Dr. Jim Gilman

NIH Clinical Center CEO

