

## **Atrium Health Navicent Updates COVID Safe Visitor Restrictions**

*Health System Remains Committed to Proactively Protecting Central Georgians from COVID-19 with Expanded Safe Visitation Protocols*

**MACON, Ga., April 26, 2021** – As the number of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) cases decrease in Georgia and following careful review of its policies and local COVID-19 data, Atrium Health Navicent (AHN) has chosen to modify certain portions of its visitation policy. The visitation policy is used to protect patients, visitors and caregivers from the threat of COVID-19. These changes are effective **Monday, April 26, 2021** and only visitors described below will be permitted into Atrium Health Navicent facilities.

### **Visitors include those who are visiting/accompanying the following patients:**

- All patients in systemwide inpatient may have two (2) visitors *excluding COVID-19 units. See special considerations.*
- All patients in systemwide outpatient and ambulatory settings may have one (1) visitor *excluding COVID-19 units.*
- Visitors under the age of 12 are not permitted, including for the birth of a sibling.
- Special considerations are made for the following and detailed below:
  - Minor patients under the age of 18
  - Patients in labor and delivery and/or family birth centers
  - Patients in intensive care (*non-COVID-19 units*)
  - Patients at end of life and/or in hospice/palliative care
  - Patients who need a healthcare decision maker or visitor to help with communication and/or mobility

### **Special Considerations**

- Visitors are asked to stay no longer than two (2) hours per visit, except for parents/guardians, ICU, and hospice/palliative/end of life patients.
- Minor patients under the age of 18 may have two (2) visitors/guardians at any time.
- Patients in labor and delivery and/or family birth centers may have two (2) visitors including the birth coach and one (1) visitor overnight.
- Patients in hospice or palliative care may have two (2) visitors daily, one at a time at the bedside and one (1) visitor overnight.
- Patients in ICU (*non COVID-19*) may have two (2) visitors daily.
- Patients at Atrium Health Navicent Rehabilitation Hospital (AHNRH) may designate two (2) visitors for the duration of their stay.
  - Visiting hours at AHNRH are 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. daily.

### **Visitors must continue to adhere to the following guidelines:**

- Visitation is limited to two (2) visitors per day.

- Visitors must remain in patient room at all times.
- Waiting rooms remain closed.
- Essential visitors may change out daily.
- Visitation hours will be held from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily.

**The enhanced visitation policy applies to all Atrium Health Navicent locations, including:**

- Beverly Knight Olson Children’s Hospital Navicent Health
- The Medical Center, Navicent Health
- Medical Center of Peach County, Navicent Health
- Navicent Health Baldwin
- Rehabilitation Hospital, Navicent Health
- Monroe County Hospital, a Navicent Health Partner
- Putnam General Hospital, a Navicent Health Partner
- Navicent Health Emergency Rooms, Urgent Care Centers, and Diagnostics Centers

All facilities may be accessed through their main lobbies and/or emergency centers. Individuals with cough, fever, shortness of breath or other flu-like symptoms are asked to refrain from visiting. Greeters at public entrances will continue to ask basic screening questions and temperature monitoring, guiding those seeking treatment to the appropriate location while assisting visitors as needed.

Atrium Health Navicent recognizes that interacting with loved ones can be helpful to the healing process and strongly encourage everyone to utilize other forms of support for their loved ones, including phone calls and video chats on cell phones or other mobile devices. Patients have access to Wi-Fi to assist with mobile communication.

The health of our patients and the community is the highest concern at Atrium Health Navicent. Our policies and actions are designed to safeguard our community. We appreciate the community’s cooperation and understanding with our efforts to mitigate the threat of COVID-19.

For the latest information on Atrium Health Navicent’s response to COVID-19, including our visitation policy, please visit [www.navicenthealth.org](http://www.navicenthealth.org). Atrium Health Navicent reserves the right to update the visitation policy at any time, based on current COVID-19 conditions.

**About Atrium Health Navicent**

Atrium Health Navicent, the leading provider of health care in central and south Georgia, is committed to its mission of elevating health and wellbeing through compassionate care. Providing more than 1,000 beds and offering care in 53 specialties at more than 50 facilities throughout the region, Atrium Health Navicent provides care for health care consumers through an academic medical center; community, pediatric and rehabilitation hospitals; urgent care centers; physician practices; diagnostic centers; home health; hospice and palliative care; and a life plan community. Atrium Health Navicent is dedicated to enhancing health and wellness for individuals throughout the region through nationally recognized quality care, community health initiatives and collaborative partnerships. For more information, please visit [www.NavicentHealth.org](http://www.NavicentHealth.org).

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