

# Parkside Memory Care Tamarac: Visitation Policy and Procedures

## I. Purpose

The purpose of this Visitation Policy is to establish clear and comprehensive guidelines that balance the rights of residents to receive visitors with the responsibility to ensure a safe, comfortable, and healthy environment for all. This policy prioritizes infection control, resident well-being, and family engagement while adhering to Florida state laws and health regulations.

## II. General Visitation Guidelines

### 1. Visiting Hours

Standard visiting hours are from **9:00 AM to 9:00 PM**, seven days a week. However, exceptions may be made for special circumstances such as out-of-town visitors, hospice care, or essential caregivers.

### 2. Extended Visitation

Upon request, extended visitation hours will be granted for:

- **Out-of-town guests**
- **Primary caregivers**
- **Hospice or palliative care visitors**
- **Emergency medical situations**
- **Religious or spiritual support**

3. These exceptions will be granted at the discretion of the Administrator or designee.

### 4. Special Circumstances for Restriction of Visitation

In situations where health risks are present (e.g., during flu outbreaks, pandemics, or other infectious diseases), visitation may be limited. Restrictions will be implemented following the guidelines provided by the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**, **Florida Department of Health (FDOH)**, and **Florida Emergency Management**. Essential caregivers and compassionate care visits will be allowed even during restricted visitation periods in accordance with Florida Statute 408.823, which protects the right to visitation in critical situations unless a resident objects. These circumstances include:

- **End-of-life care**
- **Medical decision-making**
- **Resident adjustment periods**
- **Significant emotional distress**

## III. Visitor Requirements

### 1. Appointment Scheduling

For non-urgent visits, visitors are encouraged to schedule their visits in advance using the facility's online or telephone booking system to ensure smooth visitor management.

## 2. **Health Screening**

All visitors are required to undergo a health screening upon arrival, which includes:

- Temperature checks
- Completion of a brief health questionnaire regarding recent symptoms, exposure to infectious diseases, and travel history.

Any visitor exhibiting symptoms or who has been recently exposed to illness will be asked to reschedule their visit.

## 3. **Sign-In/Sign-Out Procedures**

Visitors must sign in and out at the reception area upon arrival and departure. This ensures the facility maintains accurate visitor records for security, compliance, and potential contact tracing purposes.

## 4. **Infection Control and PPE Requirements**

All visitors must adhere to the following infection control protocols:

- **Face masks** are required at all times while inside the facility.
- **Hand hygiene** stations will be available at entry points and throughout the facility, and visitors must sanitize their hands upon entry and exit.
- **Social distancing** (6 feet apart) is encouraged during visits, except where physical contact is consensual and deemed safe by the resident or their caregiver.

# IV. **Resident-Specific Guidelines**

## 1. **Resident Consent**

All residents have the right to accept or decline visits. If a resident lacks decision-making capacity, the legal representative (e.g., guardian or power of attorney) will be consulted for visitation approval.

## 2. **Designated Visiting Areas**

Visitors are encouraged to use designated visiting areas, which will be designed to allow for privacy, comfort, and infection control. These areas will be regularly sanitized to ensure safety.

## 3. **Physical Contact**

Physical contact between residents and visitors is allowed with mutual consent and adherence to infection control protocols. For those at high risk of infection, visitors may be required to follow enhanced protective measures.

# V. **Length and Number of Visits**

## 1. **Visit Duration**

Visitors are encouraged to keep visits to a reasonable length, typically between **1-3 hours**, to balance time with residents and minimize traffic flow within the facility. Longer visits may be arranged for special situations, such as caregiver or hospice visits.

## 2. **Number of Visitors**

To maintain a calm and safe environment, each resident may receive up to **two visitors at a time**. Larger groups may be considered for outdoor visits or special events with prior approval from the Administrator.

## **VI. Facility Responsibilities**

### **1. Sanitization and Hygiene**

All common areas, visiting spaces, and high-touch surfaces will be regularly sanitized, with enhanced cleaning protocols during times of increased infection risk.

### **2. Communication and Education**

The facility will provide ongoing communication to residents, families, and visitors about any changes to visitation policies. Educational materials related to infection control will be readily available at entry points and online.

### **3. Monitoring and Compliance**

Facility staff will actively monitor compliance with this visitation policy. Visitors who do not adhere to the guidelines may be asked to leave to protect the health and safety of residents.

## **VII. Special Considerations for Visitation**

### **1. Essential Caregiver Designation**

Residents may designate an essential caregiver, who will be allowed regular visitation even during restricted periods. Essential caregivers are responsible for providing emotional or physical support to residents during their visits.

### **2. End-of-Life Situations**

In end-of-life situations, families may have expanded access to residents, including visits outside of regular visiting hours and overnight stays if needed.

### **3. Outdoor Visitation**

Where possible, the facility will encourage outdoor visitation to provide a safer, more open environment for interaction while adhering to social distancing guidelines.

## **VIII. Vaccination Status**

While visitors will not be required to show proof of vaccination, the facility encourages those who are eligible to be vaccinated for the health and safety of all. Visitors are reminded that infection control measures (masking, hand hygiene) will still be enforced regardless of vaccination status.

## **IX. Visitation Policy Acknowledgment**

All visitors will be required to sign an acknowledgment form upon their first visit to the facility, confirming their understanding and agreement to comply with the visitation policy.

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### **Parkside Memory Care Tamarac**

7501 NW 76th Street,

Tamarac, FL 33321

**Administrator:** Seema Lakhani

**Visitation Policy Acknowledgment Form**

This statement verifies that I, \_\_\_\_\_, have received and reviewed the Visitation Policy and Procedures.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_