Due to the increase in positive COVID-19 cases throughout the state and community, Froedtert South has decided to reinstate stricter visitor guidelines in the interest of the health of patients, visitors and staff members, effective this Monday, October 19, 2020.

Starting Monday, inpatient areas will be following a “no visitor” policy. The Emergency Departments, Cancer Center, physician clinics, and outpatient lab and imaging areas will be allowing one support person to accompany patients if the patient cannot attend his/her visit or procedure without assistance or support (applies to accompanying minors as well). The Birthing Inn will allow one support person to be with the obstetrical patient during her stay.

Visitor exceptions will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis in all areas. More information on visitor restrictions will be uploaded to the Froedtert South Portal in the coming days and distributed to various departments for reference. For the inpatient area, the house supervisor of the respective hospital should be contacted by calling 262-656-2011 to discuss potential exceptions.

Surgery, GI Lab, and Interventional Procedures Lab departments will also be abiding by a “no visitors” rule, with the following exceptions:

- Patient is mentally or physically challenged.
- Patient is hearing or visually impaired.
- Patient has a language barrier.
- Patient is a minor (under the age of 18).
- Patient is having a high-risk, critical procedure.

If any of the scenarios above exist, please contact the department manager for approval of one visitor. Approved support persons for elective procedural and surgical patients will also be required to receive a COVID test 48 hours prior to the procedure. The physician (or office) should contact the testing drive-thru center at (262) 671-7777 and provide information regarding the patient, approved visitor, and procedure date. The COVID-19 testing drive-thru staff will place the order, monitor results, and contact the surgeon regarding any concerns.

Patients scheduled for a procedure or surgery on either Monday, October 19, 2020, or Tuesday, October 20, 2020, will be allowed one untested visitor (once screened upon entry for COVID-19) if he or she meets at least one of the scenarios above and as coordinated by the department manager. Beginning on Wednesday, October 21, 2020, all approved visitors for procedures or surgery must be tested.

Your understanding and assistance with this matter is greatly appreciated.