

March 12, 2020

We are continuing to take steps to be prepared for new developments in the COVID-19 pandemic to protect our staff, patients and community. The leadership team will be sending out a frequent communication to keep staff up to date on the current situation and any changes in process. Developments are happening very quickly and we ask that all staff please be patient. The ultimate goal is to protect ourselves and our patients as calmly as we can.

Edward Mirzabegian
CEO

In light of the recent changes and guidance from CDC and LADPH, Antelope Valley Hospital is taking this additional measure to protect the health of our patients, their loved ones and our medical staff. **Effective immediately, the entry points and the visitations will be limited.**

Following visitation restrictions will be implemented:

- We are restricting visitors over the age of 60 and under the age of 16 years.
- All visitors will be screened for the following:
 - Fever
 - Cough
 - Trouble Breathing
 - Recently traveled outside of the United States
- Visitors who exhibit flu-like illness (fever greater than 100 degrees F in addition to a cough or sore throat) will not be permitted to visit hospitalized patients during COVID-19 outbreak.

Visitor Exception will be reviewed by the House Supervisor on a case by case basis:

a. Procedural Area/ Surgical

- All patients will be directed and educated before their scheduled procedure of the visitor restrictions.
- The only visitor allowed is the support person to the patient. They will be screened for the above guidelines and their temperature will be checked.
- All surgical patients will be called and educated in advance to ensure they are aware of the restrictions and understand the compliance is imminent for their safety.

b. Under special circumstances such as end of life patient, in event of a death, etc., the House Supervisor will consult with senior leadership to make any provisions.

Pediatric patient care unit visitation is limited to parents, guardian or primary caretaker only.

WIP - Along with the main hospital we will not be allowing visitors under the age of 16 or over the age of 60 and follow the hospital guidelines delineated above. All above guidelines will be followed.

- Labor and Deliver- Allow one support person and/or Dula
- Couplet Care- one support person allowed
- NICU- two visitors allowed during infant hospital stay, in addition, they are required a 3 minute hand scrub, and wear hospital gown over their cloth.

This is a rapidly evolving situation and AV will take additional steps to help control the spread of COVID-19 as necessary. AV hospital recognizes that interacting with friends and family can be helpful to the healing process and strongly encourage everyone to utilize other forms of support for their loved ones, such as phone calls, video chats on cell phones or other mobile devices.