LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER - SHREVEPORT

VISITATION POLICY

Purpose:

To communicate LSU Health Sciences Center – Shreveport visitation guidelines. To provide an access control that protects the rights of our patients, visitors, and employees to a safe, secure, and orderly environment.

Policy:

The Health Sciences Center recognizes the importance and the rights of patients to have visitors. A supportive Visitation Policy enhances the cohesiveness of the family unit and the patient’s support systems. Family waiting areas are provided on most Nursing Units, ICU’s, Operating Suites and Ancillary Departments. However, the Medical Center also recognizes that its primary purpose is to help improve the health of the patients entrusted to its care. On those occasions where situations of visitation potentially distract from the promotion of the healing process, actions may be taken which restrict or otherwise control visitation.

Visitation hours for general care units are from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily. Visitation times for Special Care Units (EMS, OB/Peds, Critical Care and Psychiatry) are determined by each individual special care unit.

Only one approved person per patient may remain overnight on the General Care Unit after 9:00 p.m. All persons visiting the hospital after 9:00 p.m. or before 7:00 a.m. must be registered at the Information Desk located in the first floor front lobby. A visitor’s pass, specifying the nursing unit and date, shall be issued for one night only by the Patient Information Desk attendant who will instruct the visitor to remain on the assigned unit, and to wear the pass on the chest area where it is clearly visible at all times.

Special Considerations:

Only one approved visitor may enter with the patient through the Emergency Room drive entrance at any time. All other EMS patients’ visitors must enter through the Kings Highway lobby, sign in and wait in the Triage waiting area or remain in the lobby.

Only two approved visitors may see a patient in the EMS area at a time.
Only two approved visitors per patient may visit during posted visitation periods in the Critical Care Units. (Exception: Only one visitor is allowed from 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the SICU.)

All guarded prisoner-patients shall be denied visitors except terminal cases and those cases with special consideration as approved by the custodian authority and University Police Department. When special visitation privileges are authorized, prisoner-patient visitors shall be escorted by University Police.

Children visiting patient care areas must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Visitation by children may be restricted dependent upon the patient’s condition and circumstances as deemed appropriate by the unit supervisor/charge nurse or Administrative House Manager.

The University Police Department officers shall monitor all visitors entering the Hospital and determine if visitor security clearance has been met. Visitors not receiving security clearance shall be detained in the lobby and/or removed from the hospital premises.

Visitation shall be restricted or terminated for non-compliance with established visitor policies and/or declared emergency situations for the Hospital. If visitor control becomes a problem and cannot be managed by Unit personnel or the Administrative House Manager, University Police (6165) shall be contacted for assistance.

________________________________________
Administrator

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Date

Written: 3/85
Revised: 3/27/95, 12/1/95, 5/01, 6/03
Reviewed: 3/98
Approved by Clinical Board: 5/15/01, 7/15/03