


Name of Policy: <u>Patient Visitors</u> Policy Number: 3364-120-83 Department: Inpatient Behavioral Health Approving Officer: Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) / Service Chief Responsible Agent: Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) / Service Chief Scope: The University of Toledo Medical Center	 Effective Date: 4/1/2023 Initial Effective Date: 6/1/14				
<table> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> New policy proposal</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor/technical revision of existing policy</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Major revision of existing policy</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Reaffirmation of existing policy</td> </tr> </table>		<input type="checkbox"/> New policy proposal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor/technical revision of existing policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision of existing policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Reaffirmation of existing policy
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(A) Policy Statement

Patient visitors are an essential component of the healing process and integral to maintaining A therapeutic milieu.

(B) Purpose of Policy

To protect the privacy and safety of patients and maintain a therapeutic milieu.

(C) Procedure

1. Visiting hours are maintained and managed by the Inpatient Behavioral Health Unit staff.
2. If the visitation hours do not meet the needs of the patient's family/friends, another block of time will be designated with the approval of the Administrator/Charge Nurse/Designee
3. All visitors must sign in arrival and agree to keep confidential the names and situations of other patients on the unit.
4. If problems arise with visitors on the unit, the Administrator/Charge RN/Designee evaluates the need for security involvement. Every effort will be made by staff to resolve the issue to preserve the dignity and safety of all patients and visitors without involving security.
5. All visitors' belongings are stored upon entering the unit. Visitors are educated about items considered unsafe for the unit and encouraged to leave all items outside the unit.
6. No outside food or drink is allowed.
7. If visitation is contraindicated due to patient condition, the physician will document the reasons in the medical record. The individualized treatment plan should reflect the restriction as well as with goals to reintroduce visitation.
8. Visitors found to be bringing contraband will be asked to discard the item (food or drink, smoking material), or remove it from the environment immediately. Refusal to do so will result in termination of visiting privileges for that person.
9. The Administrator/Charge Nurse/Designee reserves the right to limit the numbers of visitors, the hours of visitation or cancel visitation for the day for legitimate therapeutic reasons.

<p>Approved by:</p> <p>/s/ _____</p> <p>Kurt Kless, MSN, MBA, RN, NE-BC Chief Nursing Officer (CNO)</p> <p>/s/ _____</p> <p>Tanvir Singh, MD Service Chief</p> <p><i>Written by: Carol A. Schaaf, RN, MPA Program Director</i></p> <p><i>Review: Lindsay Watson LSW MSW PD</i></p> <p><i>Revision Completed By:</i></p>	<p>Review/Revision Date:</p> <p>6/2017 6/2020 4/2023</p> <p>Next Review Date: 4/1/2026</p>
<p>Policies Superseded by This Policy: New</p>	