

DATE: Monday, 20 July 2020

SUBJECT: Hospital visitor restrictions

Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District (ISLHD) has this afternoon implemented further restrictions around visiting times and the number of people that can visit patients in our hospitals.

Visiting hours will now be in to two separate sessions: **10am to 12pm** and **5pm to 7pm**.

In addition, **only one visitor is allowed in each visiting session** for each patient.

It is preferable that an individual does not stay with a patient longer than two hours, therefore it is recommended that the same person does not visit in both sessions in one day.

Children of a patient, aged under 16, may be allowed to visit, however only one child is permitted in each visiting session and they must be accompanied at all times by an adult.

These restrictions apply to all patients, except for specific exemptions (see below), which have not changed at this stage.

Specified exemptions to visiting hours and restrictions

The nurse in charge may permit longer visiting hours in the circumstances outlined below:

Paediatric and Neonatal

Children can have both parents/carers at any time with no restrictions on the length of visit.

End of life

Where a patient is receiving end of life care, visitors will be limited only to the extent required to minimise any risk.

Maternity and Birthing

During labour and birth, mothers are able to be supported by up to two people.

Postnatal, the partner/support person can visit for unrestricted time periods between 8am and 8pm.

Additionally up to two visitors at any one time are able to be present (inclusive of the partner/support person) during general hospital visiting hours from 10am to 12pm and 5pm to 7pm.

Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District

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Phone: 4221 6862 | After hours: 0422 003 764 | website: www.islhd.health.nsw.gov.au

healthdirect AUSTRALIA – providing expert health advice 24 hours a day to NSW residents – Tel. 1800 022 222

Visits to COVID-19 patients

Patients with confirmed COVID-19 or suspected COVID-19 can **NOT** be visited unless approved by the Hospital General Manager, COVID Ward Operations Manager or their after-hours delegate.

COVID-19 visitor screening and temperature taking at the entrance of hospitals will continue.

As part of the screening process, anyone entering the hospital will be asked if they have visited any of the venues on the [Latest COVID-19 case locations in NSW list](#) at the specified dates and times. If so, they will not be able to visit the hospital until 14 days have passed since they were there. This list is being regularly updated and we are asking the community to review the list, which is available on the NSW Government website: www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latest-news-and-updates, before attending the hospital.

When visiting the hospital please remember that physical distancing rules apply at all times. Stay 1.5 metres apart from anyone you encounter in the hospital.

A reminder also that you **should not be visiting patients in hospital** if you are unwell or have been tested for COVID and are awaiting results.

Please visit the Local Health District's website for more information:
www.islhd.health.nsw.gov.au/services-clinics/public-health-unit/infectious-diseases/covid-19-latest-advice-and-resources-0