

# News Release

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## **Bridgeport Hospital restricting visitors due to rising community COVID-19 numbers**

BRIDGEPORT, CT (Nov. 13, 2020) – Due to the increasing concern regarding community spread of COVID-19, Bridgeport Hospital has restricted visitor access to patients at the hospital and its outpatient facilities. We know in-person visits provide support and reassurance and we understand that visitation restrictions can be very unsettling to patients and family members alike. **Our teams are committed to maintaining a compassionate connection virtually between patients and their loved ones to reduce this burden.**

To prevent the spread of the disease and to protect the health and safety of patients, visitors and staff, effective Saturday, Nov. 14:

- There is no visitation to hospitalized patients due to the highly contagious nature of COVID-19. Exceptions to this policy may be made at the discretion of the patient's clinical team and we will do our best to accommodate exceptions where possible. Among the visitor exceptions that can be made will be for maternity patients, children who are patients, patients for whom end-of-life is imminent, NICU patients, and patients with disabilities, such as altered mental status; physical, intellectual or cognitive disabilities; communication barriers; or behavioral concerns.
- We encourage visitors to remain closely connected to their loved ones through virtual means, including Skype, FaceTime and/or phone.
- All visitors who do enter the hospital will be screened for evidence of illness by the staff at the front desk **and will be required to wear a mask at all times**. Should questions arise, front desk staff will contact clinical leadership for guidance.
- Visitors who are sick will not be permitted to enter the hospital; this is without exception.

Bridgeport Hospital continues its efforts to keep patients, visitors and healthcare professionals safe. The hospital remains ready to care for all patients while maintaining all safety precautions. Those who do not have COVID-19 are cared for on separate units. Patients with COVID-19 are treated on dedicated units by specific care teams while in the hospital.

Yale New Haven Health has a call center for patients, staff and community members who have questions about COVID-19. Healthcare professionals from the health system are available to answer specific questions seven days a week from 7 am - 7 pm. The call center can be reached at 833-ASK-YNHH (833-275-9644).

**Bridgeport Hospital**, part of Yale New Haven Health, is a non-profit 501-bed acute care hospital with two campuses (plus 42 beds licensed to Yale New Haven Children's Hospital). Both Bridgeport Hospital and the Milford Campus of Bridgeport Hospital serve patients throughout Fairfield and New Haven counties. The hospital admits more than 23,000 patients and provides nearly 350,000 outpatient treatments annually. The Connecticut Burn Center at Bridgeport Hospital is the only burn center in the state and one of only 64 verified burn centers in the United States. Bridgeport Hospital is committed to providing safe, compassionate and cost efficient care to its patients and the community. [www.bridgeporthospital.org](http://www.bridgeporthospital.org)