

NUMBER: PCS.669	LEAD DEPARTMENT: Nursing	ACCOUNTABILITY: Sr. VP of Hospice Services
PAGE: 1 of 2	TITLE: Visitation and Overnight Accommodations - Inpatient Units (IPU)	
EFFECTIVE DATE: 06.09.09	REVIEW/REVISION DATES: 03.11; 03.14; 07.15; 03.16; 03.17; 03.18; 03.19; 03.20; 03.21	
DEPARTMENT(S)/AREA(S) AFFECTED: Nursing		
ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE APPROVAL DATES:		CLINICAL COMMITTEE APPROVAL DATES: 03.16.11; 03.12.14; 07.13.15; 04.11.16; 04.10.17; 06.11.18; 04.08.19; 03.02.20 (Exec. Leadership/ Infection Control Coord. Approval); 05.10.21; 06.13.22; 06.12.23

POLICY:

Community Hospice & Palliative Care inpatient units allow visitation on a twenty-four (24) basis seven (7) days a week. When possible, overnight accommodations in the patient’s room are made available to the family/caregiver upon request. At the discretion of the inpatient manager/designee (supervisor) restrictions may be placed on visitation and overnight accommodations.

PURPOSE:

1. To define the procedure and restrictions on visitation and overnight accommodations in Community Hospice & Palliative Care inpatient units (IPUs).
2. To comply with all applicable federal, state, and local health and safety laws, regulations, and codes.

DEFINITIONS:

N/A

PROCEDURE:

1. Community Hospice & Palliative Care inpatient manager/designee (supervisor) may place restrictions on visitation and overnight accommodations in a hospice inpatient unit (IPU) as requested/required for patient comfort; and for the health and safety of patients, staff and others.
2. For patients that reside in hospital-based hospice inpatient units, Community Hospice & Palliative Care follows the hospital’s written policy/protocol as it relates to the restriction of visitors due to health and safety concerns and regulations (e.g., identified, or suspected infection/communicable disease outbreaks, safety/security issues, environmental/natural disasters, etc.). **Note:** The IPUs at St. Vincent’s are limited to five (5) visitors per patient due to size restrictions, safety regulations and hospital recommendations. Other hospital-based units may have similar regulations and recommendations to be followed.
3. Visitors are requested to sign-in at the front desk and are given a visitor pass.

	Title: Visitation and Overnight Accommodations - Inpatient Units (IPU)	Number: PCS.669
---	--	---------------------------

4. Visitors are instructed not to restrict staff access to the patient and to maintain appropriate behavior.
5. As available, one (1) roll-away bed is provided per patient room, to the guest, along with a clean set of linens. Otherwise, a recliner chair or sofa bed is available in the patient's room.
6. Visitors are requested to care and provide for their own needs.
7. Staff informs visitors that children under the age of sixteen (16) must be accompanied and supervised at all times by a responsible adult other than the patient. **Note:** Exceptions are addressed on a case-by-case basis with inpatient manager/designee (supervisor) approval.
8. Visitors exhibiting inappropriate behavior are asked to leave the unit and may be prohibited from visiting in the future (see policy PCS.024 Safety Awareness for details).

REFERENCES:

1. See Archived (ICC.005) "Visitation-Overnight Accommodations" for previous policy revisions.
2. Link to Related Community Hospice & Palliative Care Policies, Procedures and Guidelines:
 - A. IC.026 Infection Prevention and Control Program
 - B. IC.026-F Guideline - Management of an Epidemic and Pandemic
 - C. PCS.024 Safety Awareness
3. Medicare Regulations Conditions of Participation (CoPs) for Hospice Care, 42 CFR 418.110 (e) (1) and (2): Patient Areas