

CARTERET HEALTH CARE
PATIENT CARE SERVICES
POLICY MANUAL

DEPARTMENT: **MATERNAL/CHILD HEALTH**

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SUBJECT: Visitation Guidelines

POLICY

To promote the physical, mental and social well being of patients in Maternal Child Health

STANDARD

Visitor guidelines are established to provide our patients with support from family and friends while maintaining a safe and comfortable environment.

MINIMUM SKILL LEVEL REQUIRED

- A. Patient care staff
- B. Communication Staff
- C. Security Staff

GENERAL INFORMATION

This policy serves as a guideline only. Depending on the patients' condition, further restriction/exceptions may be necessary for the well being of the patient at the discretion of physicians. Responsibility for enforcement of the visiting rules will be shared by Communications, Nursing, Physicians, and Security. In Addition, visitation will be guided by the patient's preference and the patient's medical and emotional condition.

Visitors will be encouraged to observe the following guidelines:

- A. Fathers, grandparents, and siblings may visit maternity patients 24 hours per day with these considerations:
 - 1. Support persons are to be limited to three during the delivery.
 - 2. Children under the age of fifteen will not be allowed during the delivery.
 - 3. Siblings should not visit during active labor but are encouraged to visit after the delivery.
 - 4. Visitors in L & D are to be limited to four at other times.
 - 5. Visitors are to be directed to wait in the waiting room when not visiting the patient in her room, to assure safety and other patients' privacy.

To ensure patient confidentiality and privacy there will be absolutely no loitering in the hallway of the L & D Area.

- 6. No visitors with the following conditions will be permitted to visit.
 - Fever
 - Diarrhea
 - Active Colds or Upper Respiratory Infections
 - Strep Throat
 - Rash with history of illness
 - Children who have been exposed recently to a known communicable disease

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7. Children under the age of fifteen, that are not siblings of the newborn, will not be permitted to visit while newborn is in mom's room.
 8. All visitors will be instructed to thoroughly wash their hands before handling an infant or infant care supplies.
- B. In the Nursery significant other and grandparents may visit at any time except during report to oncoming shift and physicians. No more than 2 visitors will be permitted in the nursery at a time. Children are not permitted in the Nursery. Visitation may be restricted due to procedures or to protect patient confidentiality.
- C. While mother and newborn are in the OB PACU room 2-5110, only the significant other or mother's support person (only one visitor) may visit. Support persons may not alternate visitation while mother and newborn are in the OB PACU.
- D. Visiting hours of other patients in the Maternal/Child Health will follow the general hospital policy for "[Visitation Guidelines](#)."

Reference:

Guideline for Perinatal Care: Seventh Edition. American Academy of Pediatrics and The American Academy of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; October 2007: 304-305.

Origination Date: 11/1996

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Review Dates: 9/7/1999 – Angie Dale, 8/21/2001 – Edna Taylor, 7/1/2004 – Edna Taylor, 10/2012

CLINICAL DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL: Robin Mobley, RN

DATE 8/9/2016

PCS ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL: Cindy Jones

DATE: 8/9/2016