

Visitation Risks during an Outbreak Investigation

The health and safety of our MVH residents is a top priority. Our visitation guidelines balance preventing the spread of coronavirus that causes COVID-19 with the needs of our residents and their loved ones.

MVH does not recommend indoor visitation during an outbreak investigation. An outbreak investigation means that there is potential, or actual, cases of COVID-19 present within the facility. MVH offers alternative visitation opportunities, such as window visits, Facetime, and use of other technology to visit with your loved ones.

If a resident or resident representative would like to have a visit during an outbreak investigation, visitors shall wear a well-fitting face covering or mask during the visit, regardless of vaccination status. The visitation shall occur in the resident's room, and contact should be limited. Physical distancing is strongly encouraged.

A visitor is required to be informed of the risks involved when visiting during an outbreak investigation.

Risks:

- A resident may be unable to wear a well-fitting mask or remain in a quarantined area. Therefore, increasing the risk of exposure to the visitor.
- Healthcare provider wears an elevated level of protection that a visitor cannot wear and therefore places visitor at a higher risk of contracting the virus.
- Droplets may get into mucus membranes which can lead to infection.
- Contracting COVID-19, a visitor can spread the virus to others, including their family.
- A visitor who contracts COVID-19 can become severely ill, hospitalized requiring life sustaining treatment, and have a potential risk for death from being infected with COVID-19.
- Persons who are unvaccinated or immunocompromised are at higher risk to contracting COVID-19 from an exposure.

AUGUSTA
 310 CONY ROAD
 AUGUSTA, ME 04330
 1-888-684-4464

BANGOR
 44 HOGAN ROAD
 BANGOR, ME 04401
 1-888-684-4665

CARIBOU
 163 VAN BUREN ROAD
 CARIBOU, ME 04736
 1-888-684-4667

MACHIAS
 32 VETERAN WAY
 MACHIAS, ME 04654
 1-877-866-4669

SCARBOROUGH
 290 US ROUTE 1
 SCARBOROUGH, ME 04074
 1-888-684-4666

SOUTH PARIS
 477 HIGH STREET
 SOUTH PARIS, ME 04281
 1-888-684-4668

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 460 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE
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 1-800-278-9494

Visitation Education and Reminders

COVID-19 Signs and Symptoms

| | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cough | <input type="checkbox"/> Congestion or runny nose |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shortness of breath | <input type="checkbox"/> Chills |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fever | <input type="checkbox"/> Muscle pain |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Repeated shaking with chills | <input type="checkbox"/> Sore throat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Headache | <input type="checkbox"/> Diarrhea |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New loss of taste or smell | <input type="checkbox"/> Nausea or vomiting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fatigue | <input type="checkbox"/> |

VISITOR REMINDERS:

- During levels of high community transmission rates, visitors shall be encouraged to obtain a test on their own before coming to the facility (within 2-3 days).
- Visitors shall perform hand hygiene upon entry to MVH, before and after visitation.
- Visitors shall report to MVH any COVID-19 signs and symptoms at the time of visit and up to 48 hours after visitation.
- Visitors with any signs or symptoms of COVID-19, a positive viral test (PCR) for COVID-19, and/or meets the criteria for quarantine will not be permitted to visit.
- Visitors shall maintain 6 feet distance from the resident and any staff member(s) when not in private visitation setting, or at all times, for the duration of the visit.
- Visitor shall wear mask/face covering and wear it for the duration of the visit.
- Food or beverage may not be consumed during the visit.
- Fully vaccinated residents **and** visitors may remove face mask when in private visitation setting.
- Outdoor visitation shall be weather permitting.
- Visitor's children shall be supervised at all times, maintaining social distancing, and wearing a face covering when age appropriate (age 2 years or older).
- MVH Staff member may be present for portions of your visit to ensure core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention are being followed.
- MVH reserves the right to revoke visitation when compliance to the guidelines are not followed, endangering the welfare of our residents and staff members.

For counties in low and moderate transmission:

1. Physical contact may occur between a fully vaccinated resident and fully vaccinated visitor.
2. Physical contact for a resident who is not fully vaccinated or a visitor who is not fully vaccinated may occur, however, both the resident and visitor must be in a well-fitting mask and perform hand hygiene before and after contact.
3. Meals or snacks are only permitted when both the resident and visitor are fully vaccinated and in private visitation setting.

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Benefits of COVID-19 Vaccination

1. (<https://www.cdc.gov/2019-ncov/vaccines/vaccine-benefits.html>) COVID-19 vaccines are safe
 - Millions of people in the United States have received COVID-19 vaccines since authorized for emergency use by FDA.
 - COVID-19 vaccines undergo the most intensive safety monitoring in U.S. history.
 - A growing [body of evidence](#) has shown that these vaccines are safe and effective.
 - COVID-19 vaccines were developed using scientific methods.
 - There is no evidence that COVID-19 vaccines cause fertility problems.
2. COVID-19 vaccines are effective
 - COVID 19-vaccines are effective and can reduce the risk of getting and spreading COVID-19.
 - COVID-19 vaccines also help children and adults from getting seriously ill even if they do get COVID-19.
 - COVID-19 tends to be milder in children than adults. However, it can make children very sick, require hospitalization, and some children have even died. Children with underlying medical conditions are more at risk for severe illness compared to children without underlying medical conditions.
 - Getting children ages 5 years and older vaccinated can help protect them from serious complications.
 - Getting everyone ages 5 years and older vaccinated can protect families and communities, including friends and family who are not eligible for vaccination and [people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19](#).
3. Once fully vaccinated, people can start doing more
 - [After children and adults are fully vaccinated for COVID-19](#), they can resume many activities that they did before the pandemic.
 - CDC recommends that fully vaccinated people wear a mask in public indoor settings if they are in an area of [substantial or high transmission](#).
 - People are not considered fully vaccinated until 2 weeks after their second dose of the [Pfizer-BioNTech](#) or [Moderna](#) COVID-19 vaccine, or 2 weeks after a single-dose of [Johnson & Johnson's Janssen](#) COVID-19 vaccine.
 - You should keep using all the tools available [to protect yourself and others](#) until you are fully vaccinated.

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4. COVID-19 vaccination is a safer way to help build protection. COVID is still a threat to people who are unvaccinated.
5. Immunity after COVID-19 vaccination - CDC recommends an additional primary shot for [moderate to severely immunocompromised people](#) and [booster shots](#) for certain groups of people.
6. None of the COVID-19 vaccines contain the live virus that causes COVID-19, so a COVID-19 vaccine cannot make you sick with COVID-19.

Risks of Vaccination

- A. Adults and children may have some side effects from the vaccine, which are normal signs that their body is building protection. These side effects may affect their ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days.
- B. Serious side effects that could cause a long-term health problem are extremely unlikely following any vaccination, including COVID-19 vaccination. Vaccine monitoring has historically shown that side effects generally happen within six weeks of receiving a vaccine dose. The CDC is continuing to monitor the safety of COVID-19 vaccines even now that the vaccines are in use.
- C. Rare cases of myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle) and pericarditis (inflammation of the outer lining of the heart) in adolescents and young adults have been reported more often after receiving the second dose of Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccines.
- D. Anyone who has a severe allergic reaction to Pfizer, Moderna, or Johnson & Johnson's Janssen (J&J) COVID-19 vaccination, should not receive another dose of that vaccine.

Common Side Effects

On the arm where you got the shot:



- Pain
- Redness
- Swelling

Throughout the rest of your body:



- Tiredness
- Headache
- Muscle pain
- Chills
- Fever
- Nausea

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