

On Arrival to the Hospital to see the Patient

Please enter the hospital through the main entrance.

Check in with the Security Officer at reception where you will be asked to complete a Covid-19 Questionnaire similar to the questions that have been asked by the Visiting Co-ordinator

Your temperature will be recorded on the questionnaire.

In the event of a raised temperature you will be asked to leave the hospital and contact your GP for medical advice

You will be asked to carry out hand hygiene. You must wear face covering at all times in the Hospital. You will be issued with a surgical face mask on arrival.

Your name will be on the visiting log which you will be asked to sign and the Security Officer will give you directions to the ward.

On the ward can you please ensure you only sit with your relative. You must not visit any other patient on the ward.

Visiting Times

Emergency Department

There is no visiting allowed in the Emergency Department.

Medical Ward

14.00 to 16.00

Surgical Ward

14.00 to 16.00

Maternity Ward

10.00 to 19.00

Intensive Care Unit (ICU)

15.00 to 16.00

Coronary Care Unit (CCU)

15.00 to 16.00

Paediatric Ward

1 Parent/Relative must remain at all times during the child's admission.

Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU)

Visiting can be arranged with the Unit.

Contact details

The Visiting Co-ordinator is available daily from 10.00 to 13.00 at 057 8696801. An answering machine is available outside these hours so you can leave a message and the Visiting Co-ordinator will return your call.



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Visitor Information Leaflet

Midland Regional Hospital

Portlaoise



Background

Visiting has been arranged at the Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise in line with the guidance for the control of the spread of Covid 19 in Acute and Children's Hospitals & Covid 19 Guidance on visiting Acute Hospitals. It is important that visitors accept personal responsibility with respect to their obligation to help protect the person they visit, other patients on the ward and the staff in the Hospital. Visitors are required to sign in on entry to the hospital. *This sign in is an acceptance of personal responsibility for their behaviour and for unavoidable risk.*

The guidance recommends 4 routine visits per week in the absence of Critical/Compassionate circumstances when the frequency of visiting can be increased.

A patient can have 1 visitor per day for a maximum of 30 minutes on Medical, Surgical, ICU & CCU.

On the Maternity Ward there is 1 visit allowed per day for 1 hour for Partner/Birthing Partner.

Compassionate Visits

There is no limit to the number of visits on compassionate grounds. Examples of a compassionate visit are - where a patient is receiving end of life care, if a patient is distressed and is unable to request a visit or if the Medical, Nursing or the Allied Health Professionals request a visit for the patients' health and wellbeing

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How to arrange a visit to see a patient

- Relative must phone to make an appointment with the Visiting Co-ordinator at 057 8696801
- A pre Covid questionnaire will be conducted by the Visiting Co-ordinator. However if you have tested positive for Covid-19 within the last 14 days your visit to the hospital cannot be facilitated.
- Examples of the questions are as follows:
 - Have you had a lab confirmed Positive Covid-19 Test Result?
 - Have you been in contact with a confirmed case of Covid-19?
 - Have any of your household had or are awaiting a Covid-19 test?
 - Are you currently isolating due to Covid-19 symptoms or have you been identified as a close contact?
 - Have you returned from travel abroad?
 - If you have had any of the following symptoms in the last 48 hours:
 - Temperature greater than 37.5.
 - Cough
 - Sore throat
 - Shortness of breath
 - Difficulty in breathing

- Cold or flu-like symptoms
 - Sudden loss of smell or taste
 - Diarrhoea
 - Sudden loss of energy.
- An appointment time will be given to the visitor taking into account the number of visitors in the ward at the allocated time and the health status of the patient.

How to appeal, if you are refused a visit.

You can discuss with the relevant ward manager, if a request for a visit has been refused. If you remain unhappy with the decision, you may appeal to the relevant Assistant Director of Nursing.

