

MISSISSIPPI METHODIST SENIOR SERVICES, INC.
Apartment Living, Personal Care, Assisted Living and Memory Care
Visiting, Dining and Life Enrichment Activities Protocol

Purpose

MSS understands that elders derive value from physical, emotional, and spiritual support they receive from family and friends; therefore, MSS is enacting new guidelines to offer safe visits, dining, and life enrichment activities.

Protocol Guidelines

Family and friend visits will be based on the following:

- Screening of all who enter the facility for signs and symptoms of COVID-19
- Hand Hygiene with alcohol-based hand rub
- Face mask (covering the nose and mouth) strongly recommended for elders and visitors but required for team members when in elder common areas and bedrooms/apartments
- Social distancing of at least 6 feet
- Cleaning and disinfecting high touch surfaces throughout the facility often

Visitors who do not adhere to the guidelines will be asked to leave and may not be permitted to return until the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) is over.

Visits will be discouraged when a facility has 3 or more active COVID cases in elders/employees in a 14-day period.

Outdoor Visits:

Outdoor visits are preferred as they pose a lower risk due to increased space and airflow. It is preferred that no elder have more than 2 people visit at one time. Recommended limits on visitors are to promote safe infection prevention actions.

Indoor Visits:

Facilities will accommodate indoor visits with the following guidelines:

- Indoor visits will be discouraged when a location has 3 or more active COVID cases in elders/employees in a 14-day period.
- Visitors' movement may be limited in the facility.

Elders who live in personal care, assisted living or memory care and are positive for COVID 19 are eligible for window visits, virtual visits, and in-person for compassionate care or end of life situations with adherence to transmission-based precautions.

In personal care, assisted living, or memory care the Ombudsman may visit elders using the same guidelines as the public.

Dining and Life Enrichment Activities:

Communal dining and group activities should occur if facility is not in an outbreak

Effective Date: 03/01/2021

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period. Outside entertainment and family groups may be permitted if the county positivity rate is designated as green.

Quarantine Guidelines:

Doctor Visits: Physician offices are considered a “safe zone” and elders will no longer have to quarantine following an appointment. MSS encourages the use of telehealth when available.

Hospital and Emergency Room Visits: These areas are considered higher risk areas and residents will be required to quarantine for 10 days after return to the facility. The 10-day quarantine will be waived if the elder has been positive for COVID 19 in the last 90 days or is 14 days post vaccination.

Other Outings and New Resident Move-In: MSS will follow county positivity rates when enacting quarantine rules for traveling out in the community. If the county is designated as green or yellow, there will be no quarantine required following outings in the community. If the county is designated as red a 7-day quarantine is recommended before moving about the facility. The 7-day quarantine will be waived if the elder has been positive for COVID 19 in the last 90 days or is 14 days post vaccination.

County positivity rates can be found at <https://data.cms.gov/stories/s/COVID-19-Nursing-Home-Data/bkwz-xpvg/> under COVID-19 testing section.

Transportation:

Transportation services may be offered by the facility.

Mask Note:

If 100% of the team is vaccinated then masking is not required but recommended.