

SIM LODGE ALF

Visitation Policy and Procedure

Authority:

On April 6, 2022, Governor DeSantis signed the “No Patient Left Alone” act into law. This policy explains how SIM Lodge will implement that law (FS 408.823).

Policies:

1. Infection control and education policies for visitors; screening, personal protective equipment, and other infection control protocols:
 - a. Staff will make infection control policies and procedures available as needed to visitors to the facility to educate them on how to protect everyone from illness.
 - i. There are questions and guidelines on the visitor sign-in sheet. There is also a folder containing our visitation policy and procedure on our sign-in table. Infection control education is available to visitors upon request.
 - b. Visitors are requested to sign into the facility. No other screening is required.
 - c. Staff (as long as we have coverage; if not, staff will wear a mask) and general visitors who exhibit signs and symptoms of respiratory illness will be asked not to return to the Lodge until they have been symptom-free for twenty-four hours. Although essential caregivers will not be denied entry, they will be given a higher level of PPE while in our facility.
 - d. Hand sanitizer is available for use by visitors, staff, and residents at facility entrances and at key points throughout the facility.
 - e. Residents are permitted to have consensual physical contact with visitors of their choice.
2. Permissible length of visits and numbers of visitors:
 - a. Residents are permitted to visit with any person of his or her choice, at any time, but overnight accommodations are not available in the Lodge, unless an exception has been made with management.
 - b. There is no limit on the number of visitors allowed in the facility at one time provided the capacity determined by the Fire Marshal is not exceeded and staff is able to effectively manage visitor volume within the facility.
3. The head nurse or facility administrator shall be responsible for ensuring that staff adhere to the visitation policies and procedures.
4. A resident may designate a visitor who is a family member, friend, guardian, or other individual as an essential caregiver. Essential caregivers may visit between the hours of 8 am and 9 pm or as individually arranged with the facility.
5. In-person visitation will always be allowed in all of the following circumstances, unless the resident objects:
 - a. End-of-life situations.
 - b. A resident who was living with family before being admitted to the ALF is struggling with the change in environment and lack of in-person family support.
 - c. The resident is making one or more major medical decisions.
 - d. A resident is experiencing emotional distress or grieving the loss of a friend or family member who recently died.
 - e. A resident needs cueing or encouragement to eat or drink which was previously provided by a family member or caregiver.
 - f. A resident who used to talk and interact with others is seldom speaking.

Safety-related policies and procedures

- o may not be more stringent than those established for the provider's staff and
 - o may not require visitors to submit proof of any vaccination or immunization.
- Providers may not require an essential caregiver to provide necessary care to a resident.

(d) The policies and procedures may require a visitor to agree in writing to follow the provider's policies and procedures.

(e) The providers shall provide their visitation policies and procedures to the agency when applying for initial licensure, licensure renewal, or change of ownership. The provider must make the visitation policies and procedures available to the agency for review at any time, upon request.

Visitation Policy and Procedures Agreement

I, _____, have received and read a copy of the SIM Lodge Visitation Policy and Procedures. I understand the procedures and agree to follow them.

Administrator Signature_____ Date_____

Staff Signature_____ Date_____