



Visitation FAQ'S

Whose guidelines / laws are you basing this visitation information on?

All of our guidance that we follow and incorporate in our policies and procedures are based on the most updated NY State and federal guidelines. Please keep in mind, whenever the NY State and federal (CMS) guidelines conflict with each other or don't completely line up, we must go with the more stringent of the two (usually the NY Department of Health). For example, we don't follow anything that the CDC says unless the NY State Department of Health or Federal government (CMS) tells us to, or openly agrees with it.

Visitation is always open, right?

Although visitation is mostly open, there are some scenarios that require us to suspend it. For example: Residents in quarantine, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, until they have met criteria for release from quarantine, are not allowed visitation, unless it's a compassionate visit. These scenarios are based on an "outbreak status."

As Per the NY State Department of Health Guidance:

"An outbreak exists when a new nursing home onset of COVID-19 occurs (i.e., a new COVID-19 case among residents or staff). With the appropriate safeguards, visitation can still occur when there is an outbreak, but there is evidence that the transmission of COVID-19 is contained to a single area (e.g., unit) of the facility.

When a new case of COVID-19 among residents or staff is identified, nursing homes should immediately begin outbreak testing and suspend all visitation, until at least one round of facility-wide testing is completed and no new positives occur.

If subsequent rounds of outbreak testing identify one or more additional COVID-19 cases in other areas/units of the facility, then facilities should suspend visitation for all residents (vaccinated and unvaccinated), until the facility meets the criteria to discontinue outbreak testing".

***Please see Meadowbrook Care Center's Website for the Full facility Policy and Procedures on opened and closed visitation parameters at <https://www.meadowbrooklongisland.com/>**

How will I know if the facility is open for visitation?

The facility posts our visitation status on our website. We also send out Robo calls and email blasts whenever a change occurs in the facility (e.g. if a staff member or resident tests positive...).

What does "Fully Vaccinated" mean?

If your loved one received both vaccines of either Pfizer or Moderna, or the 1 dose of Johnson & Johnson vaccine, **AND** 2 weeks has passed since the administration, that is what we mean by "fully vaccinated"

What is the procedure to schedule a visit?

If your loved one is “fully vaccinated,” no appointments or scheduling is required. Just come any day of the week between the hours of 10am and 7pm.

If your loved one is **NOT** “fully vaccinated,” Call the recreation department to schedule a visit at 516-377-8282 or 516-377-8263, ask for Suzy or Sharon to set up a time and date.

How long is the visit? How Often?

If your loved one is “fully vaccinated,” they can stay as long as they like between the times of 10am and 7pm. If your loved one is **NOT** “fully vaccinated,” each visit will be approximately an hour long in order to accommodate as many resident families and representatives as possible since unvaccinated visitation needs to be supervised. As of now, for residents **NOT** “fully vaccinated,” three times a week will be the set amount of visitation per resident.

Where is the visitation taking place at the facility?

- Weather permitting, the visitation will preferably take place either by our beautiful outside roof garden or in front parking lot of the facility main entrance.
- If inclement weather occurs, the facility will utilize the “Rec. Dec.” on the 3rd floor or the many sitting areas on each unit. Signs are posted on the floor with arrows pointing visitors to the exact location of the rec deck for clarity.
- For bedbound residents or other residents unable to move around the facility comfortably, in room visits will be allowed.

How many people can come visit?

The current number of visitors per visitation is four (4) people at least once a week. We can allow more **IF** the family is okay with splitting the time between extra individuals (e.g., 15 minutes each set of visitors).

What do I need to do to prepare for a regular visit?

In order to properly prepare for a visitation, visitors should fill out the screening questions, and sign in the building with the information needed to be provided for contact tracing as per the most recent Department of Health guidance posted on our website. The info questions required are:

- First and last name of the visitor;
- Physical (street) address of the visitor;
- Daytime and evening telephone number;
- Date and time of visit;
- Email address, if available;

We recommend Covid19 tests to protect our residents but do not require them. Abbott Rapid tests will be available onsite if wanted. Please be patient as we don’t have full time swabbers onsite and we’ll get to you as quickly as we can.

What should I wear?

Visitors and residents must wear a facemask or face covering (must always cover both the nose and mouth when on the premises of the facility) at all times (except: if you and your loved one are fully vaccinated, you may take off your mask in a designated sitting area or resident room if roommate is not

around). Masks will be available on hand for visitors as needed. **Anyone found not wearing a mask at all times may receive limited visitation in the future.** Visitors who are at the facility for a compassionate visit might be donning full PPE gear with mask, gown, face shield, and gloves at all times (which can get hot and uncomfortable) if the resident requires certain precautions.

What is a compassionate visit?

As Per the NY State Department of Health Guidance: “While end-of-life situations have been used as examples of compassionate care situations, the term “compassionate care situations” does not exclusively refer to end-of-life situations. Compassionate care visits, and visits required under federal disability rights law, should be allowed at all times, regardless of a resident’s vaccination status, the county’s COVID-19 positivity rate, or an outbreak. Using a person-centered approach, nursing homes should work with residents, families, caregivers, resident representatives, and the Ombudsman program to identify the need for compassionate care visits. Examples of other types of compassionate care situations include, but are not limited to:

- A resident, who was living with their family before recently being admitted to a nursing home, is struggling with the change in environment and lack of physical family support.
- A resident who is grieving after a friend or family member recently passed away.
- A resident who needs cueing and encouragement with eating or drinking, previously provided by family and/or caregiver(s), is experiencing weight loss or dehydration.
- A resident, who used to talk and interact with others, is experiencing emotional distress, seldom speaking, or crying more frequently (when the resident had rarely cried in the past).
- Visits by any individual that can meet the resident’s needs, such as clergy or lay persons offering religious and spiritual support”.

What do I need to do to prepare for a compassionate visit?

The best way to prepare for a compassionate visit is to set up an appointment with the recreation department. You will also need a mask, so bring one if you have a preference or sensitive face, if not, we can supply one. Full PPE may be required as per our facility policy and standard isolation precaution guidelines. This will include: gown, gloves, face shield, and mask (which can get hot and uncomfortable) so please be prepared.

What happens if I am vaccinated twice and passed the two weeks since getting them?

If both resident and Family members are vaccinated:

- They may hug during their visitation period as long as the masks are kept on.
- No social distancing required.
- A Covid19 test is not required.
- Have the card handy in case you are asked to present it.
- If you and your loved one are fully vaccinated, you may take off your mask in a designated sitting area or resident room if roommate is not around.