

Visiting your loved one who is COVID-19 positive (Adult Patients)

Updated January 21, 2022

The safety of our patients, their loved ones, and our team members is our top priority. Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe by following these guidelines. Please plan your visit with the patient's care team.

What should you know about visiting?

- Adult COVID-19 positive patients in the hospital may have 1 designated visitor who is at least 18 years old. That visitor must be free of fever or other symptoms of illness. They may visit daily during visiting hours. Switching visitors is not allowed. Exceptions may be made to also permit a Compassionate Care visitor and clergy requested by the patient.
- Visitors are at risk of developing severe COVID-19 infection (requiring hospitalization or resulting in death). Factors that increase your risk of developing severe disease are:
 - not being vaccinated
 - older age
 - decreased immunity
 - being overweight
 - other chronic medical problems like diabetes, heart, and lung conditions.

For your safety, we strongly recommend visitors for COVID-19 positive patients be fully vaccinated.

Personal Protective Equipment (hospital-issued mask, face shield, gown, gloves)

- Visitors must wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and follow all safety measures.
- All visitors are required to have a visitor health screening and follow infection control procedures.
- Once you enter your loved one's room, all PPE must remain on at all times. Please do not open door or leave room with gown and gloves still on. Use the call button or phone in the room if you need assistance to leave.
- Visitors who do not follow all safety procedures or who remove their mask, face shield, gown, or gloves while in the room with a COVID-19-positive patient may be asked to leave and may not be allowed to visit.

Eating and Drinking

- Visitors should not eat or drink in the patient room since removing your mask puts you at risk for acquiring COVID-19 from your loved one. If you must eat or drink, this should be done distanced from the patient and when care team members are not present.
- For safety reasons, visitors of COVID-19 patients must stay in the patient room and may not visit any other common locations (such as the cafeteria), to decrease the risk of spreading COVID-19 to other people.

Is there any other way to visit my loved one?

- You can use virtual means (such as video visits) to connect with your loved one in place of in-person visits. Please connect with your patient's care team for available options.

How do I get my COVID-19 vaccine or booster?

- Ongoing Walk-In Vaccination Clinics are being held at **Clinic 1J in Duke Clinics, 40 Medicine Circle** (ages 12 and older), Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 4:15 pm (Pfizer)
- Visit <https://www.dukehealth.org/COVID-19-19-update/walk-in-vaccine-clinic> for the most up-to-date information about walk-in vaccine clinics.
- Visit <https://www.dukehealth.org/COVID-19-19-update/schedule-vaccine-step-one> to schedule a vaccine appointment.

