



June 26, 2020

New Direction

Visitors important during COVID-19, but so is safety

At Nacogdoches Memorial, we recognize the importance of support from family and friends to our patients' overall care and recovery, but we also recognize that safety is of the utmost importance to the health of our patients, staff and community. We will begin phasing in the reopening of our visitation program next week, but recent surges in coronavirus cases statewide have resulted in a re-evaluation of how that should look. Memorial will start relaxing visitation restrictions by allowing visitors to accompany patients needing procedures and surgeries, but will not ease inpatient restrictions for at least two more weeks.

Surgical and medical procedure patients will be allowed one designated visitor who may escort the patient to registration and remain in the designated waiting rooms/lobbies during the patient's procedure. Designated visitors must be over the age of 18 years and must wear a mask and practice social distancing from individuals other than their patient. Visitors may briefly visit the Bright Café, Coffee Spot, vending areas or rest rooms, if needed.

All approved visitors will be screened for temperature, symptoms and possible exposure upon entry to the hospital. Visitors will not be granted access if screening is failed or refused. Hand sanitizing will be required upon entry to the facility and at intermittent locations.

Inpatient policies will be in effect allowing for two banded parents to remain with a NICU patient during visiting hours; and pediatric parents may remain with their child at all times. End-of-life considerations will remain in effect and patients who are confused or hard to manage will be allowed a visitor to help with their care.

Signage and social distancing boundaries have been posted around the hospital, some directing visitors to avoid staff elevators for their own safety. **Visitors will continue to enter the building through the lobby and ER entrances, but staff should now enter only through the back hallway by the cath lab waiting area. Ask your manager for the access code.** Starting Monday, staff should avoid the Mound Street parking lots, reserving those for patients and visitors.

Please help support our mission by respecting new directives and helping our visitors abide by them as well. The senior management team will look at the policy again in a couple of weeks to see if further loosening is possible.

Wear your masks!

Masks: the most important fashion statement you can make



Interested in a career at NMH?

Apply @ <https://www.nacmem.org/careers/all/>
Stop by Human Resources or call 936.568.8543

The following poem was written by one of Memorial's regular hospitalists and recited during a recent morning safety huddle, then published in the Nacogdoches Daily Sentinel. Enjoy.

RUBY There's room for everyone!

Ruby, Topaz, or Emerald,
There's a placeholder for every gem.
Racing, Tennis, or Aerobics,
There's a pedestal for every champ.
There's a place for everything!
There's room for everyone!

Car, bus, or Airplane,
Every running motor has a lane.
Flying jets, big or small,
There's a chance to take off for all.
There's a place for everything!
There's room for everyone!

Bollywood, Chinawood, or Hollywood,
There's a charm on every silver screen.
Spanish, Chinese, or English,
"Behold the Best, Evict the Evil."
That's the message in every language.
Hindu, Muslim, or Christian,
"Love and Peace!"
Every religion stands for the best.
There's a place for everything!
There's room for everyone!

Brown, Black, or White,
No way to disrespect or discriminate.
Poor, Middleclass, or Elite,
No chance to disdain or dominate.
It ain't anyone's privilege.
Nor anybody's cribbage.
Stand up for what's your right.
Don't fall asleep, till your sky is bright.
Because there's a place for everything!
Cause there's room for everyone!

There's a place for everything!
There's room for everyone!

~Vijay Koduri, M.D.
Nacogdoches Memorial Hospitalist

Look for COVID support button

The Nacogdoches Memorial Health website now has a donation button allowing easy online contributions to support our COVID-19 efforts and our dedicated staff fighting the coronavirus.

If patients, friends or community supporters ask how they can help the hospital, be sure to direct them to the button that looks like the photo below on the www.nacmem.org front page.

Their tax-deductible gift to the Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital Foundation will help support our efforts while serving as a reflection of gratitude for the sacrifices and strength of our very own healthcare heroes.



Welcome new teammates

As part of the new visitation program, we've hired several new security liaisons to man the screening desks and work with our security guards in the ER and lobby. The cath lab staff is happy to relinquish that duty and get back to their own work.

Please make the new staffers feel welcome!

Getting ready for baby?

These are trying times and we hate we haven't been able to connect in person with a Prepared Childbirth Class for our moms who are expecting little Miracles on Mound Street. The L&D staff discovered that Pampers has a great multi-video resource though and we have been sharing that online. Check it out here: <http://ow.ly/yIju50zJiKZ> or search online for "Pampers childbirth education."

