



UCSF Health COVID-19

October 30, 2020

TOWN HALLS

- The next UCSF Town Hall will be held on **Friday, November 6, from 4-5 p.m.** and will focus on post-election topics.
- You can access last Friday's UCSF Town Hall [here](#).

COVID-19 UPDATES

UCSF HEALTH COVID-19 EXPOSURES

We have identified six cases of COVID-19 in one of our units that may have resulted from hospital transmission. Yesterday, Josh Adler, MD, chief clinical officer, UCSF Health, and Pat Patton, MSN, RN, chief nursing executive, UCSF Health, sent [this letter](#) to UCSF Health sharing what we know to date, describe the ongoing investigation, and report on measures we have taken to ensure the safety of employees and patients.

CHANGES TO INPATIENT VISITOR POLICY

The Inpatient Visitor Exception Committee regularly reviews the numbers and types of visitor requests and adapts policy to meet the needs of patients and safety of our staff. **Effective November 9th**, the changes below will be made to our Inpatient Visitor Policy.

Changes to General Visitation: The one visitor allowed to all patients in the inpatient setting

- **Expanded Hours:** Visiting hours expanded to 10AM – 8PM.
- For general **visitors with cognitive or physical disabilities** for whom a visit may present a safety concern, an additional visitor to serve as an escort will be approved upon request.
- **Minors Visiting:** Inpatients at the Pediatric and Adult Hospitals and Birth Center who stay longer than two weeks can request a scheduled visit by their minor dependents once per week, as long as those minors are at least 5 years of age and able to comply with masking and socially distancing policies.
- **Chaplain Visitation:** For patients requesting outside spiritual care services for specific services that can only be provided in person, a single chaplain may be allowed in addition to the essential visitor upon approval by UCSF Spiritual Care Services.

Changes to Necessary Visitation: Visitor exceptions that allow for increased numbers and hours for patients with a specific caregiving need

- **Requests for necessary visitation** should be made by the attending to the unit director, and when appropriate, in partnership with the critical care attending.
- **Fetal demise:** Adult and minor patients who have experienced a fetal demise, whether due to ectopic pregnancy, miscarriage, or still birth during their hospitalization are allowed to have a one visitor stay overnight.
- **Definition of End of Life (EOL):** A patient at the end of life will now be defined as a patient expected to survive less than 7 days, a patient on comfort care **or** with a challenging disposition to hospice as their next level of care. This definition does not include patients undergoing a high risk procedure or all those with a terminal diagnosis or who are critically ill who may survive until discharge. Imminent death is defined as patients expected to pass away within 12 hours.
- **Visitors at EOL:** Adult Patients who meet this definition of EOL will be allowed 8 total visitors on their exception list, of which two can be at the bedside at one time. When death is imminent, four visitors may be allowed at the bedside by request depending on the size of the room and patient acuity.

Requests for Visitors outside of those allowed by the policy

- **Requests for visitors to be added** to the list should be directed to the unit staff. Bedside nurses can enter a single General Visitor, all other requests should be directed to unit directors/ hospital supervisor depending on time of day.
- **Outside of policy requests:** Unit directors can approve any visitors specifically outlined under the policy, however to ensure equity and transparency, all requests outside of the policy should be submitted to the [visitor escalation committee](#), and will be reviewed by a team of physicians, nurses and social workers familiar with the policy the same business day.

For the full visitor policy, please [click here](#).

UCSF COVID-19 POSITIVE CASES DASHBOARD

The new [UCSF COVID-19 Enterprise Dashboard](#) will provide the UCSF community with information about COVID-19 testing and positive cases at UCSF. The interactive dashboard will incorporate regularly updated testing data and includes:

- Tallies of the total number of students, faculty, clinical and administrative employees who have tested positive since the pandemic's start.
- Recent trends in symptomatic and asymptomatic COVID-19 testing at UCSF.
- A list of UCSF buildings recently accessed by someone who later received a positive diagnosis, along with the dates when the buildings were accessed.

NEW SCREENING PROCESS: VENDORS AND GUESTS

Vendors and approved campus guests will be required to follow a new health screening process prior to visiting UCSF.

New steps include:

- Vendors and guests must complete the [Vendor & Campus Guest Daily Health Screener](#) prior to arriving on site. This tool replaces verbal and paper screenings, and [can be accessed online](#) or through the new COVID-19 section of the [UCSF Mobile App](#).
- Vendors must also abide by the [Protocols for Vendors Working on Campus](#), and campus guests must [receive approval](#) before visiting UCSF.

REMINDERS

- The employee daily screener now asks whether you live with anyone who is waiting for COVID test results due to symptoms of a COVID-type illness. If you answer yes to this question, you will need to inform your manager and stay home until your household member receives a negative test result, or after an appropriate quarantine if there is a positive test result. A clearance letter is not required to return to work after your household member receives a negative result. Call the COVID-19 Hotline (415-514-7328) with any additional questions.

FREQUENTLY USED LINKS

View COVID-19 data dashboards: UCSF Health [COVID-19 Enterprise Dashboard](#) ; Hopkins [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) (for World, USA and CA #s); SF Chronicle [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) (CA, County and SF#s)

Occupational Health Services: Continue to work/return to work [detailed staff guidelines](#) and [simple sheet](#); COVID-19 Hotline 415.514.7328; [COVID+ Employees FAQs](#)

[UCSF Health COVID19 Infection Prevention Website](#)

<https://coronavirus.ucsf.edu/>

[COVID PPE Guidance](#)

[UCSF Town Halls](#)

[Infectious Disease Digests](#)

[Dept of Medicine COVID Grand Rounds](#)

[Emotional Health and Well-Being](#)

[BCH SF Clinical Digests](#)

For questions related to this newsletter, please email COVID19UCSFHealth@ucsf.edu