



Guidance from Leading Age

VISITOR RESTRICTIONS REMAIN IN PLACE

We have received questions about how the new Stay Safe MN orders impact visitation and leaves in congregate care settings. The orders do not change current guidance for visitation and leaves in nursing homes and housing with services/assisted living **at this time**.

The current visitation guidance issued by MDH is still in effect, as is the guidance provided by CMS and the CDC:

- “The state is still experiencing a growth of COVID-19 cases and, therefore, will not be lifting visitor restrictions.”
- Providers must remain in compliance with current regulations and guidance on visitation.
- The greatest COVID-19 risk comes from the movement of persons into and out of a senior care facility.
- Anyone who leaves and then returns to a senior care facility can potentially bring COVID-19 into the facility.

Regarding Restricting Visitors:

- Restrict all visitors from entry into the facility. This includes spouses, immediate family, and nonessential health care workers. The only exception is for compassionate care situations (e.g., end of life).
- When a resident spends time with a visitor for a compassionate visit, even if outdoors on facility grounds, they must remain at least six feet apart.
- Restrict all volunteers and nonessential health care personnel (HCP), including consultant services (e.g., barber).
- Develop processes to help residents and family members remain connected (i.e. resident access to virtual visits by phone and other electronic devices).
- Assist families with placement of electronic monitoring devices if requested.
- Make a plan to ensure regular communication with families and residents.

Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation and support.