



670 Moore Road
Andalusia, Alabama 36420
(334) 222-4544 • Fax (334) 222-4737
www.andalusiamanorandrehab.com

March 18, 2021

Dear Resident Representative,

While CMS guidance has focused on protecting nursing home residents from COVID-19, its recognized that separation from family and loved ones has taken a physical and emotional toll on our residents. Therefore, CMS, in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has updated its visitation guidance accordingly, emphasizing the importance of maintaining infection prevention practices, given the continued risk of COVID-19 transmission.

Please find enclosed:

- **Core Principles of COVID-19 Infection Prevention**-These core principles are consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance for nursing homes and should be adhered to at all times. Visitors who are unable to adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention should not be permitted to visit and will be asked to leave.
- **Frequently Asked Questions Regarding CMS Revised Visitation Guidance**

If you have any questions, please feel free to call (334)222-4544.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Trece Mays", is written over the typed name and title.

Trece Mays, RN, LNHA
Administrator

Core Principles of COVID-19 Infection Prevention

Visitors who are unable to adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention will not be permitted to visit or will be asked to leave.

- Screening of all who enter the facility for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., temperature checks, questions about and observations of signs or symptoms), and denial of entry of those with signs or symptoms or those who have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 infection in the prior 14 days (regardless of the visitor's vaccination status).
- Hand hygiene will be conducted with the preferred use of alcohol-based hand rub.
- A face covering or mask, covering the mouth and nose, will be worn at all times.
- Social distancing at least six feet between persons will be observed.
- Instructional signage throughout the facility and proper visitor education on COVID-19 signs and symptoms, infection control precautions, and other applicable facility practices will be conducted.
- Cleaning and disinfection of highly touched surfaces in the facility and in designated visitation areas after each visit will be performed.
- Staff will adhere to the appropriate use of personal protective equipment (PPE).
- The facility will utilize effective strategies of cohorting residents (e.g., separate areas dedicated to COVID-19 care).
- The facility will conduct resident and staff testing as per current CMS guidance.
- Physical barriers (e.g., clear Plexiglass dividers, curtains) will be used to ensure privacy and reduced risk of transmission during in-person visits.

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding CMS Revised Visitation Guidance

1. Q: What if a resident wants to leave the facility?

A: It is against our policy to detain and stop a resident from leaving the facility if the resident wishes to leave. Because of the risks of transmission of COVID-19, we strongly discourage our residents leaving the facility. If a resident insists on leaving, please have them wear a facemask while in the community, ensure that he/she frequently perform hand hygiene, and maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet between persons.

2. Q: Am I allowed to visit two different residents in the same day?

A: Yes. However, because of the risk of transmission we encourage visitors to limit their time inside the facility.

3. Q: Does the two-limit visitor rule apply to children?

A: Yes. It is our policy at this time that visitation is restricted to two people, regardless of age.

4. Q: Am I allowed to bring a pet into the facility?

A: Yes. Please restrict pets to your loved one's room only. If this is abused, pets will not be allowed in the facility.

5. Q: Will my family members be allowed to stay in the lobby while I visit?

A: No. Visitors will not be allowed to congregate in the lobby or in other common areas of the facility.

6. Q: Do I have to sign in each time I enter the facility?

A: Yes. To reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission, CMS requires that we screen all who enter the facility for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

7. Q: Is the beauty shop open?

A: Yes. Our licensed cosmetologist is resuming her normal duties. At this time, no one will be allowed to use our beauty shop but our staff.

8. Q: Is the gazebo and courtyard available for visitation?

A: Yes. Outdoor visits generally pose a lower risk of transmission due to increased space and airflow. When using our gazebo and courtyard please maintain social distancing of at least six feet between persons.

9. Q: Are dayrooms available for visitation?

A: Yes. Dayrooms are designated visitation areas. However, to reduce of transmission, please refrain from visiting your loved one in those areas if they are preoccupied.

10. Q: Is my community service group allowed to come in the facility for activities?

A: No. Andalusia Manor will continue to provide activities for our residents to decrease the risk of transmission.

11. Q: May I visit my loved one in a semi-private room?

A: Visits will be conducted in another designated visitation area (dining room, day rooms, gazebo, and courtyard) if possible. For situations where the health status prevents residents from leaving the room, please pull the privacy curtain and adhere to the core principles of COVID-19.