

June 29, 2021

OB Providers,

Yale-New Haven Hospital issued new visitor guidelines, effective 6/25/21. We would like to announce that YNHH Maternal Special Care and Maternity units will align its visitation practices with these new visitor guidelines effective Tuesday June 29, 2021.

The following 'rules' will guide the approach to visitors, especially second support persons, **on Labor and Birth at YNHH during labor.**

- **Visitation hours: 10am – 7pm (2nd visitor) and must leave by 8pm.**
- **Up to two (2) visitors per patient per day** (this includes the primary support person) and will not be allowed to switch out.
- Children (anyone under the age of 18) are allowed to visit, and must be accompanied by an adult. They will count as a visitor. NB – Only children age 12 and up are allowed in a delivery and count as a second support person.
- Visitors and support persons, per policy, “are required to wear the appropriate mask while on hospital grounds.”
- Second visitor will not be allowed for patients with positive SARS-CoV-2 tests at admission or who have an active diagnosis of COVID-19.
- Labor and Birth will continue to allow a 2nd labor support persons for the duration of their labor and delivery experience. This second visitor will be allowed access to L&B once the patient is admitted to a labor room and has a negative SARS-CoV-2 test.
- Second support persons will not be allowed on the labor floor for patients having planned cesarean deliveries.
- For patients in labor who require cesarean (e.g. arrest of labor, abnormal fetal heart rate, etc.), the 2nd support person will be asked to wait in the waiting room when the patient leaves her labor room and is brought to the operating room. The 2nd support person can re-enter Labor and Birth after the patient is in the PACU and she is cleared for visitors. The second support person will leave Labor and Birth when the patient is transferred to Maternity (WP 8, EP 4/7 to MSCU). If at this time it is within the designated visiting hours, this 2nd support can become the 2nd visitor on Maternity for that day.
- The primary support person will be able to visit for the duration of the patient’s stay.

Please note: A 2nd visitor is not permitted for COVID positive patients. The designated primary support person will be allowed to stay and cannot leave the hospital.

Any special considerations regarding visitation should be presented and vetted through leadership.

We will continually evaluate things over time and your input will be critical. Please reach out to the leadership team as needed.

Thank you,

The YNHH OB Leadership Team

