

# How to Have a Safe Hospital Visit With a Loved One Who Has or May Have COVID-19

## Visitors

Use this information to learn how you can protect yourself and others during and after your visit.

## Your Exposure Risk

Your loved one will be in enhanced respiratory precautions. Staff will be wearing personal protective equipment (known as PPE) when they are in your loved one's room.

Both you and your loved one will be required to wear a mask at all times when in your loved one's room to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19.

You are strongly discouraged from visiting your loved one if you:

- are at high risk for severe illness from COVID-19
- are older
- have an underlying medical condition.

## Visiting Guidelines

In general, here is what you can expect if your loved one has COVID-19 or is being tested.

- A member of your loved one's health care team will give you PPE as needed. You are required to wear a well-fitting mask at all times.

- You may need other PPE such as a face shield or eye protection or a mechanical-style respirator.
- You will be asked to wear a gown and gloves only if you are providing care to your loved one.

- Wash your hands with hand sanitizer or soap and water before entering your loved one's room and after leaving the room.
- Stay in the room during your visit. Do not visit other areas of the hospital such as a family waiting room or the cafeteria.
- Wear your mask when you leave your loved one's room.
- Your loved one may have a special health status called "continuous aerosol generating procedure" (known as AGP). If your loved one has this status, it is best to leave the room or not visit because AGPs may increase your risk of exposure to COVID-19.
- If you remove any of your PPE during your visit, you will be at increased risk of getting COVID-19 and should quarantine at home. Follow the guidelines for where you live.

— Minnesota: [health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/contact.pdf](https://health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/contact.pdf)

— Wisconsin: [dhs.wisconsin.gov/library/p-02598a.htm](https://dhs.wisconsin.gov/library/p-02598a.htm)