

MADISON COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	
SUBJECT: Visitation Rights for Patients and Families	POLICY #: RMH-029
DEPARTMENT: Hospital-Wide	PAGE: 1 of 1
REFERENCE: SB 902, <i>No Patient Left Alone Act</i>	APPROVED BY: Risk Management Department
	DATED: September 1, 2020
	REVISION DATE: None [08, 2021, April 08, 2022] May 1, 2021, May 26, 2021, June 01, 2021

PURPOSE:

To ensure the rights of patient visitation.

POLICY:

Madison County Memorial Hospital complies with Florida's *No Patient Left Alone Act* by posting its patient visitation policy on the hospital's website at [mcuh.org](#) and may request visitors to agree in writing to follow the hospital's visitation policies and procedures.

In-Person Visitation

In-person visitation is allowed in all the following circumstances, unless the patient objects:

- At the request of the patient.
- End-of-life situations.
- Patient who was living with family before admission and is struggling with the change in environment and lack of in-person family support.
- Patient making one or more major medical decisions.
- Patient experiencing emotional distress or grieving a recent death.
- Patient needs eating or encouragement to eat or drink, which was previously provided by a family member or caregiver.
- Patient who can't or won't talk and interact with others in new setting speaking.
- Childbirth, including labor and delivery.
- Pediatric patients.

Essential Caregiver

- A patient may designate an *essential caregiver* (family member, friend, guardian, or other individual).