

VDS VISITOR MEASURES FOR HOSPITAL AND HOMES

Pre-Visit Testing Requirements

1. Visitors who are allowed into hospital wards and Homes will be required to show a valid negative ART result obtained within the last 24 hours of each visit¹. All tests are to be self-funded by the visitor.
2. Fully vaccinated or medically ineligible visitors can opt for an ART administered or supervised by MOH-approved COVID-19 test providers (including tests performed at Quick Test Centres), or perform an unsupervised self-administered ART for the purpose of fulfilling the pre-visit testing requirement. Fully vaccinated or medically ineligible visitors who opt to undergo unsupervised self-administered ART will be required to show evidence of a valid ART result, e.g. present a time-stamped photo of the dated ART result and photo ID for verification prior to entry into the hospital ward or Home.
3. Under exceptional circumstances when non-fully vaccinated visitors are allowed, hospitals and Homes will only accept ARTs administered or supervised by MOH-approved COVID-19 test providers (including tests performed at Quick Test Centres). Results from unsupervised self-administered ART will not be accepted for this group of visitors.

In-person Visits at Hospitals

4. Each patient will be allowed to register up to two visitors for each admission with only one visitor allowed at the bedside at any one time. Patients who are critically ill will be allowed five registered visitors for each admission, with two visitors allowed at the bedside each time. Each patient can receive up to two visits per day, with each visit lasting 30 minutes.
5. A summary of the visitors allowed based on vaccination status is provided in the table below.

¹ Persons who have recovered from COVID-19 within 270 days of their visit are exempted from the pre-visit testing requirements.

	Patient is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully Vaccinated² • Medically ineligible 	Patient is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unvaccinated • Partially vaccinated
Visitor is : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully Vaccinated • Medically ineligible 	Visit allowed, subjected to restrictions on visitor numbers and visit duration. Visit duration may be extended under exceptional conditions.*	No visit, unless under exceptional conditions.*
Visitor is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unvaccinated • Partially vaccinated 	No visit, unless under exceptional conditions* (and if no alternative fully vaccinated caregiver for conditions ii-iv).	
*Exceptional conditions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Patients who are in critical condition; Paediatric patients; Birthing/post-partum mothers; and Patients requiring additional care support from caregivers. Examples include assistance of inpatients who have mental incapacities or family members who are undergoing caregiver training to better care for their loved ones after hospital discharge. 		

6. All visitors approved to enter hospital wards must don face masks with good filtration capability at all times. These include surgical masks and reusable masks that are made of two layers of fabric. Visitors are reminded not to eat or drink in the hospital wards or use the patients' toilets in the wards. They should also avoid sitting on patients' beds.

² An individual is considered vaccinated if he/she a) has been fully vaccinated, i.e. received the appropriate regimen of World Health Organization Emergency Use Listing (WHO EUL) vaccines including their respective duration post-vaccination for the vaccine to be fully effective and b) had their vaccination records ingested in MOH's IT systems. Sinovac-CoronaVac will require a three-dose primary series regime, but all individuals who have taken two doses of Sinovac-CoronaVac should be regarded as fully vaccinated for 4 months after the second dose, or until 31 December 2021, whichever is later. Persons who have recovered from COVID-19 will be considered fully vaccinated 14 days after their single dose of the PSAR-authorized mRNA vaccines (i.e. Pfizer-BioNTech/Comirnaty, Moderna) or WHO EUL vaccines. Persons who have recovered from COVID-19 within the last 270 days, regardless of their vaccination status, may also be managed similarly to a fully vaccinated individual.

In-person Visits at Homes

7. Each fully vaccinated or medically ineligible resident will be allowed up to four designated fully vaccinated or medically ineligible visitors, with one designated visitor allowed per visit, and each visit capped at 30 minutes. Visitors should strictly adhere to prevailing safe management measures within the Homes.

8. Visits will be suspended if a Home is managing an active COVID-19 cluster. We also seek the patience and understanding of visitors that some Homes may require more time to put in place the necessary processes to facilitate visits and may start off with a smaller number of visitors to allow them to stabilise their operational processes before accommodating a larger number of visits. Visitors should continue to schedule visits with the Home ahead of time. For visits to Homes, next-of-kin of residents may approach the Home for further details.

9. The hospitals and Homes will continue to support alternative methods of communication such as through telephone or video calls for all patients/residents. MOH will also review these measures regularly in line with the evolving COVID-19 situation, so as to reduce the risk of COVID-19 importation and transmission in our healthcare institutions and residential care facilities.