



☑ COVID-19 FYI

August 23, 2021

Today's word count is 561, or a 2.2 minute read.

To: All employees and medical staff

From: Incident Command

New COVID-19 Policy: Prevention and Control Measures

Here's what's happening: We have a new, comprehensive COVID-19 policy that effectively combines some of our previous COVID-19 policies (see complete list below).

We have highlighted some of the key updates of which you need to be aware. Also, the new policy can be viewed in its entirety on our [COVID-19 page, under the Organization wide section](#).

The following are COVID-19 Infection Prevention control measures BH continues to follow:

- Universal source control is required at all Bozeman Health (BH) care sites.
 - Employees are provided with a new face mask for source control each day at entrances to care sites.
 - Employees do not need to wear source control:
 - when alone in a room
 - when in a staff-only area and you can reliably physically distance from any other employee (or barriers are in place)
- Entrance management is part of BH's COVID-19 control measures.
 - Employees are expected to complete screening using Smartsheet before each shift.
 - If you do not pass screening, immediately contact your direct supervisor and Employee Health (406-414-5566). Do not begin work until you receive return-to-work guidance.
- Hand hygiene, in accordance with BH's [hand hygiene policy](#), is required—but more frequent hand hygiene is highly encouraged.
- Rapid identification and isolation or separation of persons with COVID-19 symptoms:
 - Any staff member can identify a patient that needs to be treated as a COVID-19 positive patient
 - Direct rooming of viral patients is highly encouraged whenever possible
 - Limiting people present during aerosol generating procedures
 - Evidence-based guidance on when to remove a patient from isolation for COVID-19

The following measures are NEW or have CHANGED:

- **The restrictions for the accompaniment and visitation of patients at BH care sites has changed.**

- **Patients may be visited or accompanied by one visitor at a time at Deaconess Hospital.** Please refer to the [policy](#) for more details and/or exceptions on each of the points below.
 - Visitors for patients in labor are further restricted.
 - Visitors for patients in the NICU are further restricted.
 - COVID-19 positive patients or persons under investigation (PUIs) are not permitted to have visitors.
 - Visitors who are COVID-19 positive or a PUI are not permitted to visit a patient.
 - Exceptions to visitor restrictions are available based on the discretion of the care team.
- Physical distancing is required of all individuals at Bozeman Health care sites.
 - In staff-only areas, fully vaccinated employees are exempt from physical distancing and barrier requirements.
 - In staff-only areas, if it is possible to consistently physically distance (or barriers are in place) employees may doff their facemask.
 - There are specific restrictions for in-person meetings. Alternatives to in-person meetings are highly encouraged.
 - BH sponsored gatherings or events of 35 or more people, or 25 or more employees, regardless of location, require review by Infection Prevention.

This [COVID-19 Prevention and Control Measures – Organization Wide policy](#) has replaced the following COVID-19 documents:

- BH_COVID-19_REQUEST_Updated Visitor Restrictions 12.2020
- BH_FYI Updated Visitor Restrictions Policy and Visitor Passport Guidelines_0.09.2020
- Visitor Passport_COVID-10 Ambulatory 9.4.2020
- Visitor Restrictions – Org wide Medical staff – 6.8.21
- Entrance Screening for COVID-19 Vaccine Study Participants – Org wide – 9.30.2020
- Entrance Screening Guidelines and Scripting – Org wide – 9.8.2020
- Management of Returning Volunteers
- Universal mask and face covering – Org wide – 4.28.2021
- BH_FYI_Reminder that Meeting Requirements Remain in Effect_1.12.2021

Questions or comments? Contact incidentcommand@bozemanhealth.org.