



Guidance for Outdoor Visitation at Nursing Homes in Maryland

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Outdoor visitation at nursing homes is allowable IF:

1. Visitors are screened for symptoms and not permitted to visit – even outdoors -- if symptomatic.
2. Visitors and residents wear a face covering at all times.
3. Hand Hygiene is performed before and after each visit.
4. Visitors and residents maintain proper social distancing at all times. Physical contact is not allowed during visits. Residents may be placed on observation if appropriate distancing is not maintained.
5. Items in the visitation area are cleaned and disinfected between visits.
6. A staff member is present to ensure resident safety and appropriate adherence to guidelines. Visitors who do not comply with safety recommendations (e.g. masking and social distancing) should be asked to leave.
7. Only 2 visitors are allowed per resident per visit. Facilities should consider limiting and/or scheduling outdoor visitation time.
8. The facility has a written outdoor visitation plan that addresses at least the following: screening of visitors; how the facility will ensure visitors and residents wear face covering; how hand hygiene will be supported; how social distancing will be maintained; how shared items will be cleaned; and the maximum number of simultaneous outdoor visits.
9. The local health department has approved the facility's outdoor visitation plan. Local health departments may decide to pause outdoor visitation at a facility previously approved for outdoor visitation if deemed necessary.

Additional Resources:

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on Nursing Home Visitation (CMS)

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-visitation-nursing-home-residents.pdf>