



**CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**

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**Eric C. Friedlander**  
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**Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Interim Guidance for  
Freestanding Psychiatric Hospitals/Inpatient Psychiatric Units Regarding Visitation  
March 16<sup>th</sup> 2020**

The Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Department for Public Health, in accordance with the authority granted in KRS 214.020 and Executive Order 2020-215, hereby issues this interim guidance by recommending that Freestanding Psychiatric Hospitals/Inpatient Psychiatric Units should restrict visitation and only allow it only if deemed medically necessary by the Attending Physician, Administrator, and the Medical Director.

For individuals approved to visit a patient, the following procedures apply:

- Visitors must have their temperatures taken at the facility's entrance before entry to the facility can be granted.
- Visitors without a fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit or below) may visit their loved one.
- Social distancing should be maintained at all times, including with the patient. If social distancing is not maintained, visitors may be asked to leave.
- Visitors with a temperature reading of 100.1 degrees Fahrenheit and above should not be granted entry to the facility and should be advised to seek medical attention if the visitor:
  - Shows additional signs or symptoms of respiratory infection, such as cough and sore throat;
  - Has recently traveled internationally to restricted countries; or
  - Has had contact with someone with, or under investigation for COVID-19.

If a visitor is denied entry to visit a loved one, the Cabinet further recommends that facilities should have phones available for patients to speak with visitors.

**For questions regarding infection control, transmission-based precautions, and use of personal protective equipment, please call the Healthcare-Associated Infection/Antibiotic Resistance Prevention Program:**

- Andrea Flinchum (502) 564-3261 ext. 4248
- Michael Curran (502) 564-3261 ext. 4249
- Chad Eldridge (502) 564-3261 ext. 4251

**For the most up-to-date information, please visit the following sites:**

Centers for Disease Control COVID-19 website - [www.cdc.gov/covid19](http://www.cdc.gov/covid19)  
Kentucky Department for Public Health - [www.KYCOVID19.ky.gov](http://www.KYCOVID19.ky.gov)