



Sandra M. Gumerove & Associates
Serving families with special needs

IMPORTANT ALERT REGARDING HOSPITAL VISITATION DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC FOR VULNERABLE PEOPLE

On March 18, 2020, the New York State Department of Health issued a health advisory, available on the Department's COVID-19 website (see website with March 27, 2020 update: [NY Department of Health: Hospital Visitation](#)), regarding new hospital visitation restrictions.

Effective immediately, hospitals must suspend all visitation except for patient support persons, or family members and/or legal representatives of patients in imminent end-of-life situations.

Hospitals are required to permit a patient support person at the patient bedside for:

- Patients in labor and delivery;
- Pediatric patients;
- Patients for whom a support person has been determined to be essential to the care of the patient (medically necessary) **including patients with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities and patients with cognitive impairments including dementia.**

Pediatric Patients

- For pediatric patients, the Department considers **one support person at a time** as essential to patient care in the emergency room or during hospitalization. For hospitalized pediatric patients, especially with prolonged hospitalizations, the patient or family/caregiver **may designate two support people**; but only one support person may be present at a time.

Patients With Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities

- For patients for whom a support person has been determined to be essential to the care of the patient (medically necessary) including patients with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, and patients with cognitive impairments including dementia, the Department considers **one support person at a time** as essential to patient care in the emergency room or during hospitalization. For these hospitalized patients, especially with prolonged hospitalizations, the patient or family/caregiver

may designate two support people; but only one support person may be present at a time.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to our office. We are here to help you navigate this difficult time.

Stay happy and healthy,

Sandra Gumerove & Assoc.

Contact us today!
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