

# Hospital visitors



[Hospital Visitors Direction \(No. 13\)](#)

## What's changed from 6pm AEST 11 January 2021

- Anyone who has been in [Greater Brisbane](#) on or after 2 January 2021, unless 14 days have passed since the person left Greater Brisbane, must not enter a hospital in Queensland.
- Greater Brisbane includes:
  - [City of Brisbane \(PDF\)](#)
  - [City of Ipswich \(PDF\)](#)
  - [Logan City \(PDF\)](#)
  - [Moreton Bay Region \(PDF\)](#)
  - [Redland City \(PDF\)](#)
- Despite these restrictions, persons may enter a hospital if they are:
  - an employee, contractor, or student of the facility
  - providing goods or services necessary for the facility's operation
  - providing health, medical, personal care, pharmaceutical or pathology services to a patient
  - required for emergency management, law enforcement or to comply with a power or function of a government agency or entity
  - a prospective resident or a support person of a prospective resident
  - maintaining continuity of care for a resident that can't be delivered by non-contact means – with permission of the facility's operator
  - attending for an end of life visit and have been granted an exemption

## Restricted Hospitals

- Visitors are restricted to hospitals within the current [restricted Local Government Areas](#) within the Metro North, Metro South and West Moreton Hospital and Health Service regions:
  - [City of Brisbane \(PDF\)](#)
  - [City of Ipswich \(PDF\)](#)
  - [Lockyer Valley Region \(PDF\)](#)
  - [Logan City \(PDF\)](#)
  - [Moreton Bay Region \(PDF\)](#)
  - [Redland City \(PDF\)](#)
  - [Scenic Rim Region \(PDF\)](#)
  - [Somerset Region \(PDF\)](#)

These restrictions include:

You can only visit someone in hospital if you are:

- the parents, guardians or carers for a patient under the age of 18
- providing end-of-life support
- a partner and /or support person/s for a patient admitted for care related to their pregnancy
- support worker or informal carer (including family and friends) providing support for someone with a disability.

All other patient visitors must receive approval from the operator of a hospital. The operator of a hospital may be the Chief Executive, Chief Operating Officer, Executive Director or equivalent of the hospital. This approval will only be given when the operator of the hospital, believes it is necessary for the patient to have visitors for emergency or other compassionate grounds.

### **For hospitals located in all other regions the following measures apply.**

Patients can have as many visitors as the hospital allows at any one time, for any length of time, within visiting hours.

It is recommended that you contact the hospital directly to confirm their visitation rules and visiting hours, before leaving home.

Visitors (unless you are a patient) should not be anyone who:

- is unwell
- has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or asked to quarantine
- has returned from overseas in the last 14 days (excluding safe travel zone countries)
- has had contact with a person with COVID-19 in the last 14 days
- has visited a [COVID-19 hotspot](#) in the last 14 days or since the hotspot was declared (whichever is shorter)
- has been tested for COVID-19 and are waiting to receive the results (except for tests due to surveillance testing obligations)
- has [COVID-19 symptoms](#) of fever (37.5 degrees or more), cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, loss of smell or taste, runny nose, diarrhoea, nausea, vomiting or fatigue
- has been in Victoria since 21 December 2020, unless 14 days have passed since the person left Victoria or they can provide a negative COVID-19 test since returning from Victoria
- has been in [Greater Brisbane](#) on or after 2 January 2021, unless 14 days have passed since the person left Greater Brisbane or they are:
  - an employee, contractor or student of the hospital
  - providing goods or services necessary for the hospital's operation
  - providing health, medical, therapeutic, social work or pharmaceutical services to a patient
  - required for emergency management, law enforcement or to comply with an order of any court or tribunal of Australia
  - a parent or caregiver of a patient who is a child
  - visiting a patient being provided maternity care
  - a disability support worker or informal carer to a patient with a disability
  - a visitor to a patient deemed necessary for emergency or compassionate grounds – with permission of the hospital's operator.

You may enter a hospital if you do not fit into any of the above categories. Each hospital and even wards within hospitals can make decisions around visiting that are in the best interest of the patient. These decisions are based on clinical risk and may change depending on the situation at the time. Please respect each hospital's visitor rules.

Visitors should:

- wash their hands before entering and leaving the hospital
- stay 1.5 metres away from others where possible
- follow requests from the hospital to help keep staff and patients safe.