

Hospital Visit Guidelines



To make your visits more meaningful and comfortable, you will want to become familiar with some basic and helpful visitation guidelines.

- Take an Rx Pad to take notes about your visit to share with your Church Care Coordinator.
- Take a notecard to leave an encouraging message for the patient if they are sleeping or not in the room.
- Never visit if you are sick.
- Strong perfumes and colognes are discouraged as many people are sensitive to these.
- Consider taking a gift basket or small gift: church bulletin, Christian magazine or devotional, pad/pen, appropriate/permissible food, lip balm, lotion, word search and pencil, gum, Scripture rocks or cards...
- Remember where you parked your car :)
- Look for any restrictions posted on the door.
- Before entering pray Psalm 19:14, "May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O God, my rock and my Redeemer." Ask God to use you to bring comfort and encouragement.
- Use hand sanitizer before and after each visit.
- Always knock and identify yourself before entering.
- Ask permission to turn down the volume on the radio or television or to turn it off if necessary. Turn it on again when you leave.
- Don't overstay your visit.
- Let them talk. Listening carefully shows you value them. Allow time for them to comprehend and respond to your question or rephrase your question for understanding.
- Do not use the patient's toilet. Use the one on the floor for guests.
- Do not attempt to transfer patient. Call for a nurse or CNA.
- Ask permission to serve food items. Some patients are on restrictions.
- Respect their right to confidentiality. Don't be a gossip. Ask if and what health information you can share with others who are asking.
- Implement the 5 Love Languages: Affirming word, Touch, Act of service, Gifts, Time
- Ask if you can pray with them and if they have any prayer requests.
- End with the blessing of Numbers 6:24-26 "May the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; may the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."