

# Birth Center Support Person Guidelines- **Red Status**

Our commitment is to offer expectant mothers and babies exactly what they deserve: expert guidance, top-level safety, exceptional care, respect, and empathy. To provide the safest environment for expectant mothers, babies, support people, and our staff, we have created support person guidelines to help expectant mothers know what to expect during their labor, delivery and hospital stay.

As a reminder, patients and visitors must wear a mask at all times, in all facilities, including while in the patient room. A person with COVID-19 is considered infectious starting two days before they develop symptoms or two days before the date of their positive test if they do not have symptoms. Our staff will provide a mask if the visitor does not have one.

**COVID negative MOTHER BABY CENTER PATIENTS (or patients without symptoms awaiting COVID 19 test results):** may have one well support person aged 18 or over during their hospital stay.

- Please note: A trained doula\* is considered a labor support team member and may be present in addition to the support person for COVID negative patients only.
- Compassionate exceptions may be considered for antepartum patients with extended hospital stays.

**COVID positive MOTHER BABY CENTER PATIENTS\*\*** may have one well support person aged 18 or over during their hospital stay

- Your support person must stay in your room for the duration of the visit and may not come and go from the room or hospital.
- If you require care on a non-OB unit, the visiting guidelines may be different. Your support person may not be able to visit at all times. Check with your nurse for details.
- \*\*This includes patients with signs/symptoms consistent with COVID, waiting for test results

## **SUPPORT PERSON GUIDELINES**

1. When you arrive at the hospital, your support person will have a wellness check. This includes answering a few questions. If your support person has symptoms of COVID or is COVID positive, he/she will not be able to join you in the hospital.  
In the event your support person is not able to stay, an alternate well support person may join you.
2. For your safety, you and your support person are strongly encouraged to stay in your room during your hospital stay.
3. Masks for you and your support person are required during your hospital stay. Please bring masks from home or masks will be provided. Masks **must** be worn when a hospital staff member enters your room or when you or your support person are outside of your room.