Assumption of Risk for Visitors during the COVID -19 Pandemic

In an effort to protect our patients and health care workers, Winneshiek Medical Center (WMC) has taken the difficult action of restricting most hospital visitors to reduce the potential spread of the virus. This action is in effect until further notice. However, we understand there are circumstances that require special considerations and WMC has identified some exceptions which allow limited visitors. Our visitor policy may change as conditions change. Please refer to our website for information regarding current visitor restrictions and exceptions: http://www.winmedical.org/patients-visitors/visiting-hours/

Should you choose to visit a hospitalized patient at WMC, we want you to know that we have implemented many safeguards under the guidance of the State of Iowa, the Iowa Medical Society, the CDC, and other organizations in our efforts to reduce the risk of exposure to the virus during your visit. These steps require your cooperation and participation. While we cannot completely eliminate the risk, working together cooperatively we can greatly reduce the risk that you will be exposed to COVID-19 while visiting the medical center. The following safeguards have been implemented at WMC:

• All visitors are screened by WMC staff prior to entering the medical center. Any visitor with a positive finding during the screening process will not be allowed entrance into the medical center.
• All visitors are required to wear masks when in our medical center. Please bring your own mask with you. If you don’t have a mask, one will be provided to you at the medical center entrance.
• All visitors must practice strict social distancing and strict hand hygiene when in the medical center.
• If at any time a visitor is identified as demonstrating COVID-19 symptoms, they will be asked to leave the medical center immediately.
• All visitors must stay in the room of the patient they are visiting at all times, with the exception of breaks to the visitor restroom. Visitors may order food from the WMC cafeteria (for a cost) which will be delivered to the patient room.
• All visitors must wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) as instructed by the WMC staff.

I understand that WMC staff will instruct me on the ways to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19 but that these measures do not completely eliminate the risk. Knowing the risks of possible infection with COVID-19 to myself and to anyone I come in contact with, I request to visit _______________________ and I release WMC from any responsibility if I, or anyone I may have contact with, tests positive for the virus and/or becomes ill with Covid-19.

If requesting to provide compassionate care during a potential end of life situation: I understand that if I choose to visit a patient that has confirmed or suspected COVID-19, my risk of contracting COVID-19 is increased and the PPE provided to me will not eliminate that risk. I acknowledge that as a result of visiting a patient with confirmed or suspected COVID-19, I have been instructed to quarantine for 14 days following this visit in an effort to protect others from becoming ill with COVID-19.

Visitor Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________ Time: ____________

Staff Signature: ____________________________ Date: ___________ Time: ____________