

## June 15: COVID-19 Clinical Update

### Northwest Region and Marianjoy Visitor Policy Updates, and COVID-19 Quality Committee

Today's COVID-19 Clinical Update includes revised visitor policies going live today, June 15, in the Northwest Region, and tomorrow, June 16, at Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital. Also, you will learn about the COVID-19 Quality Committee.

#### VISITOR POLICY UPDATES

New visitor policies are in effect starting today, June 15, for [Huntley Hospital](#), [McHenry Hospital](#), [Woodstock Hospital](#), and tomorrow, June 16 at [Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital](#). Inpatient visitor restrictions vary by hospital, but there is one consistent visitor policy across all outpatient clinics and facilities.

When allowed, visitors at all NM facilities must be:

- 18 or older
- Masked at all times
- Screened for symptoms of COVID-19

We continue to evaluate visitor policies at each Northwestern Medicine facility. Check [nm.org](https://www.nm.org) for updated policies for each location, and find additional facility entry and screening resources on [Physician Forum](#) and [NMI](#).

#### Service animals

NM accommodates service animals for people with disabilities, as long as the presence of a service animal and designated handler is compliant with infection prevention and COVID-19 policies.

#### COVID-19 QUALITY COMMITTEE

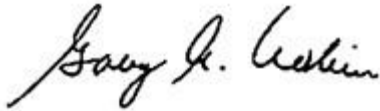
The COVID-19 pandemic presents myriad challenges, among them the need to evaluate the quality of care that we provide to diverse patient populations. Since the clinical manifestations of COVID-19 are rapidly changing, criteria to assess quality of care for patients with COVID-19 have not yet been established.

Northwestern Medicine has formed a new systemwide COVID-19 Quality Committee to begin to develop the best approach to measure quality and evaluate opportunities for improvement, considering experience and data from all of our hospitals and medical groups. The committee will begin reviewing clinical characteristics, mortality rate, disparities related to race and ethnicity, and outcomes.

The committee is composed of broad representation from across Northwestern Medicine. The first meeting is scheduled for the end of this month. For information regarding COVID-19 quality activities, please contact David Cooke, MD, at [david.cooke@nm.org](mailto:david.cooke@nm.org).

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Thank you for your extraordinary dedication and collaboration in providing exceptional care to our patients and supporting one another during this unprecedented crisis, which is also being affected by social unrest and inequities in health care. In response, I encourage you to join the NM Champion Network, an employee-led network open to all physicians for members and allies of underrepresented communities. For more information, visit [NMI](#) (*login required*).

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Gary A. Noskin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gary" and last name "Noskin" clearly legible.

**Gary A. Noskin, MD**  
Senior Vice President, Quality  
Northwestern Memorial HealthCare  
Chief Medical Officer  
Northwestern Memorial Hospital