Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Interim Guidance for Freestanding Psychiatric Hospitals/Inpatient Psychiatric Units Regarding Visitation
March 16th 2020

The Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Department for Public Health, in accordance with the authority granted in KRS 214.020 and Executive Order 2020-215, hereby issues this interim guidance by recommending that Freestanding Psychiatric Hospitals/Inpatient Psychiatric Units should restrict visitation and only allow it only if deemed medically necessary by the Attending Physician, Administrator, and the Medical Director.

For individuals approved to visit a patient, the following procedures apply:
- Visitors must have their temperatures taken at the facility’s entrance before entry to the facility can be granted.
- Visitors without a fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit or below) may visit their loved one.
- Social distancing should be maintained at all times, including with the patient. If social distancing is not maintained, visitors may be asked to leave.
- Visitors with a temperature reading of 100.1 degrees Fahrenheit and above should not be granted entry to the facility and should be advised to seek medical attention if the visitor:
  - Shows additional signs or symptoms of respiratory infection, such as cough and sore throat;
  - Has recently traveled internationally to restricted countries; or
  - Has had contact with someone with, or under investigation for COVID-19.

If a visitor is denied entry to visit a loved one, the Cabinet further recommends that facilities should have phones available for patients to speak with visitors.

For questions regarding infection control, transmission-based precautions, and use of personal protective equipment, please call the Healthcare-Associated Infection/Antibiotic Resistance Prevention Program:
- Andrea Flinchum (502) 564-3261 ext. 4248
- Michael Curran (502) 564-3261 ext. 4249
- Chad Eldridge (502) 564-3261 ext. 4251

For the most up-to-date information, please visit the following sites:
Centers for Disease Control COVID-19 website - www.cdc.gov/covid19
Kentucky Department for Public Health - www.KYCOVID19.ky.gov