



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Bon Secours Hospital Announce Temporary Visitor Restrictions as Precaution to Reduce the Spread of Flu

Baltimore, MD (February 9, 2018)

Due to the increase of flu cases in our community Bon Secours Hospital has implemented temporary visitor restrictions. The restrictions are aimed to help prevent the spread of the flu:

- No visitors under the age of 18
- Visitors exhibiting flu symptoms such as fever, chills, runny nose, body aches, cough, nausea/vomiting, or diarrhea, are not permitted to visit hospital patients
- Only two visitors will be permitted in a patient room at one time
- Individuals who come to the hospital for medical treatment and are exhibiting flu-like symptoms will be requested to wear a mask
- Patients are requested to not bring children under 18 with them for outpatient or doctor visits unless the appointment is for a child
- Compassionate visitation exceptions will be made on a case-by-case bases

Visitors are encouraged to wash their hand frequently while in the hospital to reduce the spread of infection. The flu can cause serious complications and even death, especially in the very young, the elderly, and those with certain existing medical conditions.

"The flu season this year is on record as the most widespread we've seen in years! Bon Secours Baltimore is taking steps to protect our patients, visitors and staff from exposure to flu. Thank you in advance for your patience and cooperation. As healthcare providers, our goal is to protect the community from disease," said CEO Samuel Ross, M.D., M.S.

Symptoms of flu include fever and respiratory illness symptoms such as cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle aches, chills, and sometimes vomiting and diarrhea. The recommendation to wear a mask when entering healthcare facilities will remain in effect during the flu season while the disease is at widespread levels.