Sutter Health and Sutter Roseville Medical Center Administrative Policy and Procedure	
EQUAL VISITATION POLICY	
Administration Policy: 10-340B	Origination Date: 9/21/2015 MM/YYYY Revised Date: MM/YYYY Next Review Date: 9/21/2016
Approved by:	

SCOPE

This policy applies to all patients receiving care at Sutter Roseville Medical Center and their visitors.

POLICY

Sutter Roseville Medical Center promotes and supports a patient and family centered approach to care delivered in a context sensitive to the importance of relationships. All hospitalized patients have the right to have visitors of their choice during their stay, unless visitation interferes with the well-being, rights or safety of others, or is not medically indicated in the patient's care. Patients may receive visits from visitors of their choice. Patients also have the right to withdraw or deny consent to visitation at any time. Patients who lack capacity may receive visits from family, friends and other individuals, consistent with the non-discrimination provisions of this policy. Sutter Roseville Medical Center is committed to ensuring that all visitors enjoy full and equal visitation privileges consistent with patient preferences and other applicably Sutter Roseville Medical Center policies. Patients will be informed of these rights upon admission to the hospital.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to define and set expectations regarding persons visiting patients and to recognize our commitment to provide visitation in accordance with our non-discrimination policy.

DEFINITIONS

For purposes of Sutter Roseville Medical Center-wide visitation policy:

Family: "Family" means any person(s) who plays a significant role in an individual's life. This may include a person(s) not legally related to the individual. Members of "family" include spouses, domestic partners**,** partners in civil union and both different-sex and same-sex significant others**.** "Family" includes a minor patient's parents, regardless of the gender of either parent**.** Solely for purposes of visitation policy, the concept of parenthood is to be defined as encompassing legal parents, foster parents, same-sex parents, step-parents, those serving in loco parentis, and other persons operating in caretaker roles.

Support Person: Any person who is present to support the patient during his/her hospital stay, including but not limited to a spouse, adult child, parent, close relative, friend, domestic partner**,** and both different sex and same sex significant others. Does not require that the person be legally related to the patient.

PROCEDURE

In general, Sutter Roseville Medical Center permits visiting at any time but may establish reasonable restrictions or limitations including hours of visitation and number of visitors allowed. These restrictions are imposed only in the interest of meeting patient care needs and security. Sutter Roseville Medical Center will inform patients (or their Family/Support Person, where appropriate, of visitation rights and restrictions, including any clinical restrictions or limitations. Sutter Roseville Medical Center will not restrict, limit, or

otherwise deny visitation privileges on the basis of race, color, national origin, religious creed, ancestry, medical condition, registered domestic partner status, age, sex, gender, sexual orientation**,** gender identity or expression, physical or mental disability (including pregnancy), genetic information, marital status, or any other basis prohibited by federal, state, or local law.

If a Family member or support person requests overnight stay, some facilities may require the patient's nurse to notify the Administrative Supervisor and obtain a visitor's badge. Requests for overnight stays may require review and may be accommodated on an individual patient basis, dependent on availability of private rooms, patient condition and operational considerations.

If visitation restrictions are imposed, the nurse caring for the patient will inform the patient and his/her Family and/or Support Person. For specialty units, refer to departmental policy.