



## VISITATION POLICY DURING COVID-19

Florida State Bill (SB) 988, the *No Patient Left Alone Act*, guarantees Florida families the fundamental right to visit their loved ones who are receiving care in hospitals, hospices, and long-term care facilities. No health care facility in Florida may require a vaccine as a condition of visitation and every health care facility must allow their residents and patients to be hugged by their loved ones. SB 988 states health care facilities must allow in-person visitation in all of the following circumstances, unless the resident, client, or patient objects:

- End-of-life situations.
- A resident, client, or patient who was living with family before being admitted to the provider's care is struggling with the change in environment and lack of in-person family support.
- A resident, client, or patient is making one or more major medical decisions.
- A resident, client, or patient is experiencing emotional distress or grieving the loss of a friend or family member who recently died.
- A resident, client, or patient needs cueing or encouragement to eat or drink which was previously provided by a family member or caregiver.
- A resident, client, or patient who used to talk and interact with others is seldom speaking.

Cabot Cove of Largo Assisted Living requires the following procedures to comply with Florida Statutes 400.022(1)(b) and 429.28(1). Before in-person visitation is permitted, all visitors and Essential Caregiver's must adhere to following:

1. Sign in upon entering the facility before interaction with others.
2. Comply with the *Infection Control Education for Visitors*, which may require visitors to wear PPE including a face mask and other necessary PPE and perform hand hygiene. Staff can demonstrate the proper usage of PPE.
3. The visitor shall sign the policy acknowledging an understanding the visitation policy. Failure to adhere to the policy shall result in suspension of in-person visitation.
4. Submit to a screening which may include temperatures and/or a questionnaire about current health status.
5. Visitation hours are 8am to 8pm.

Consensual physical contact between a resident and the visitor is NOT prohibited.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this policy, please contact Dragana Sanader, Executive Director at 727-539-1200.

**EFFECTIVE: 11/1/2022**