



NEWS

ANTELOPE VALLEY'S
HEALTHCARE
NEWS RESOURCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ANTELOPE VALLEY HOSPITAL REVISES VISITING POLICY DURING FLU SEASON

(LANCASTER, CA – October 14, 2009) —In an effort to protect our patients, visitors and staff from the spread of seasonal and H1N1 flu, Antelope Valley Hospital will implement a temporary visitor policy beginning October 19, 2009 to permit only those 16 years old and above to visit patients at the hospital. Patients will be able to enjoy the company of two visitors in their room at a time during the extended visiting hours which are from 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

AVH Infection Control Practitioner Elizabeth Johnston, BSN, CIC notes that, “Many facilities are revising their visiting policies in response to the new virus. We encourage guests to stay home if they are experiencing any symptoms so that our patients can heal quickly and continue to enjoy their lives.”

Visitors who are not feeling well will be encouraged to stay home until they are better. Guests are asked to delay coming to the hospital if they have a cough, sore throat, cold or any contagious disease. Those who are in high-risk groups, such as children and pregnant women, should avoid any location where people may have symptoms of the flu.

“The purpose of the temporary visiting policy is to protect patients, visitors and employees from germs and viruses that can be transferred between visitors and patients,” said Edward Mirzabegian, AVH Chief Executive Officer. “Limiting visitors protects patients from unnecessary exposure to germs and promotes the healing process.”

For more information visit www.avhospital.org/flu..

About Antelope Valley Hospital

Celebrating more than 50 years of caring for the community, Antelope Valley Hospital, a facility of

(-more-)

AVH / Temporary Visitation Policy

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Antelope Valley Healthcare District, is a non-profit, 420-bed hospital that was founded in 1955. The hospital is dedicated to providing quality care and services to everyone in the Antelope Valley. AV Hospital is located at 1600 West Avenue J in Lancaster, California. For further information, please visit www.avhospital.org or call (661) 949-5000.

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