



## I1: Hospital Policies

**Type of Exercise:** classroom/workshop activity

**Level:** Intermediate

**Length of time:** 30 minutes

**Resources needed:** copy of policy

**Instructions:** In addition to the sample policies in the handout, have students bring a visitor policy from a unit or hospital where they work or have a clinical experience. Examine the wording of these policies to see if a same-sex partner or significant other of an LGBTQ person would be permitted to visit. Use one of the policies as a starting point for a discussion of "family."

### Handout:

#### Critical Care Area Visiting Policy

Visitors are limited to members of the immediate family and two at a time may visit. Visitors under the age of 12 will be permitted to visit by the discretion of the nursing staff. To provide adequate time for rest and treatment of your family member, we ask that you limit your visit to 15 minutes every hour during posted visiting hours. There is a waiting room for your family to use while you are waiting to visit.

#### Obstetrics Unit Policy

Fathers may visit at any time at the discretion of the physician. Siblings may visit when accompanied by an adult.

### Discussion Questions:

- What is a family? What do you think a policy means when it refers to "immediate family?"
- In the case of the obstetrics department in the handout example, how could a unit be inclusive of same-sex partners? What language would be more inclusive?
- Rewrite the policies to reflect the broader definitions of family today.



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*Developed for Lavender Health by Mickey Eliason and Carla Randall*