

# PEDIATRIC VISITATION POLICY UIHC BURN/TRAUMA UNIT

*The Burn Treatment Center and Trauma/Intermediate Care Unit supports the concept of patient and family-centered care. We realize that family members are a valuable part of the healthcare team and we encourage the presence and participation of family members. For the comfort and safety of all involved, we ask that you follow these guidelines:*

1. **Visiting hours are from 8AM to 10PM.** These hours may be altered as needed according to the judgment of the nursing staff to provide the best care possible for the patient.
2. We encourage limited visitation only during the hours of 3:00-4:30 PM daily, to allow our patients a rest period.
3. Pediatric patients (up to the age of 18) may have two **adult family members** stay overnight as attendants. "Family" is defined as parents, legal guardians, significant others of parents, and siblings of the patient. These attendants must be over the age of 18. Cots or recliners for you to sleep in are available. Please ask the nursing staff for assistance. Minor children, family *or* non-family, are not permitted to stay overnight in the patient's room.
4. All visitors and attendants (children and adults) must be **free of contagious illness** and follow all isolation and infection control policies including, but not limited to:
  - Washing hands or using waterless hand sanitizer when entering and exiting the patient's room and after patient contact.
  - Follow isolation signs on the outside of the patient's door. These will give you further direction if gowns, gloves, and/or masks are needed.
  - Vaccinations must be current for all pediatric visitors.
5. Attendants staying with the patient overnight must:
  - Comfort and provide support to the patient.
  - Help to distract the patient with painful or upsetting procedures if you are able.
  - Assist the patient with feeding and meals when appropriate to their age. Please keep track of how much the patient eats and drinks so we can keep an accurate intake record.
  - Help the nursing staff in maintaining the patient's home schedule for naps, feedings, etc. as much as possible.
  - Notify the nursing staff whenever you leave the child unattended in the room. Pagers are available for your use if you wish.
  - Leave side rails up on beds and cribs at all times for the patient's safety.
  - Help the patient use the bathroom (if age appropriate) or change diapers. If the patient has genital burns, please ask the nursing staff before doing any diaper

- changes. Please save urine and diapers for the nursing staff so we can record an accurate urinary output.
- Attendants must maintain good personal hygiene, be able to care for themselves, and provide their own meals. Daily showers are encouraged. A shower is available on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor between Elevators F and H. The number above the door of the shower room is 4391.
  - We discourage the use of patient bathrooms by anyone but the patient for infection control reasons. There is a bathroom available for your use: exit the unit through the double doors and turn left. The bathrooms will be on your left.
6. Child Life services are available Monday through Saturday to provide support for hospitalized children, their siblings, and their family. Child life has many resources available to assist the patient and their family in coping with hospitalization, illness, and injuries.
  7. Pediatric psychology staff routinely visits all of our pediatric patients, families, and siblings throughout the hospital stay. Please feel free to share any questions or concerns with them.
  8. Group activities are available for patients and siblings Monday through Saturday through child life at the following times:
    - Toddlers 10:30-11:30 AM
    - School-age children 1:30-2:30 PM and 7-8 PM
  9. A playroom is available on the Burn Unit for our patients. The playroom is located across from the main Nurses' Station. Please ask for assistance if you wish for your child to use the playroom and we will unlock it for you. We encourage you to take advantage of the playroom, while following these guidelines:
    - The playroom is for **pediatric inpatients** only.
    - Patients in isolation may not use the playroom. This is for infection control reasons. Toys may be taken into the patient's room if the patient is in isolation. Toys must be disinfected before returning them to the playroom. Please ask the nursing staff for assistance in picking out toys and returning them for isolation patients.
  10. If family members do not wish to stay with the patient, lodging is available at the Ronald McDonald House, the UIHC Children's Family Suite, The Helen Rossi Guest House, or local hotels (many local hotels have a reduced "hospital rate"). For all but the hotels, a waiting list is common so please let the nursing staff know as soon as possible if you will need accommodations. **Please know that it is a non-negotiable requirement that you spend at minimum 6 hours with your child during the hours of 8AM and 10PM if you choose to stay at the Ronald McDonald House.**
  11. All visitors, attendants, and family members must be respectful of the patient, other patients on the unit, family, visitors, and staff members. Foul language, violent or threatening behavior, and any discriminatory, disrespectful, or offensive conversation or comments will **NOT** be tolerated. If you cannot comply with this, you will be asked to leave.

*Please feel free to ask us if you have any questions, comments, concerns, or if there is anything we can do to make your stay easier. We are here to make this difficult time for you and your family as stress-free as possible.*