

Center for Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia
Parents as Partners
Friends & Family Visitation Guidelines



As the parent, you are our partner and we welcome you 24 hours a day!

Visiting Hours: 9 AM- 9 PM.

Hospital Entrance: All visitors must enter through the main entrance of the hospital and obtain a visitor badge. In order to keep your child safe, this requires showing a picture ID and signing your child's visitor list at the front desk. From 9 PM to 9 AM, only parents can visit and will enter the hospital through the emergency room entrance or from the second floor bridge if staying at Ronald McDonald Central House. You may be given a key fob to the hospital elevator if you are admitted at Bayfront Baby Place. This key fob may only be used by the mother of the patient and must be returned when mother is discharged.

Unit Entrance: For the safety of our patients, no one will be allowed to enter the CCDH without a valid visitor badge (this includes parents). Pick up the phone near the door of the unit and let the Health Unit Coordinator (HUC) know who you are and who you are here to see. The Health Unit Coordinator (HUC) will then open the door.

Health Screening: Each visitor (including siblings) must complete a Visitor Health Screening Form and sign in every visit. Parents will fill out the same Health Screening Form but it is good for the entire hospitalization unless updates are required. If you or other visitors have signs or symptoms of illness, you may not be permitted to visit due to the health risk for your child. Please choose to stay home when you are sick!

Hand Washing: Each visitor must perform a 20-second hand wash when entering the unit. While at your child's bedside, remember to wash your hands or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer before touching him or her to prevent the spread of germs.

Parent Hours: 24 hours a day. We welcome you to stay in your child's room as long as you wish and value your participation in your child's care. This includes during both nursing change of shift and daily rounds with the CCDH team. Your child's nurse will introduce you to the oncoming nurse and give you an opportunity to ask questions as soon as they finish their hand-off report.

Daily Rounds: All visitors (except legal guardians) will leave the unit during daily rounds with the CCDH team. Parents and guardians who remain on the unit during daily rounds must stay in their child's room to protect the privacy of all patients. Daily rounds is typically from about 8:30 AM- Noon, though the times vary depending on the needs of the unit. Ask your bedside nurse for an update if you have concerns.

Overnight: We encourage and support you to stay with your child overnight. Due to the limited amount of space and our need to be able to move freely to and from your child's bedside, we can only provide one single-person reclining chair or you may use the couch provided in the room. If you are in need of assistance finding overnight accommodations, please ask to speak to our social worker. The waiting room may not be used as a sleeping area.

Siblings: If you wish to bring your child's siblings in to visit, please let us know so that we can help you complete the Visitor Health Screening Form. Patients' siblings under the age of 5 years are welcome to visit for short periods of time (1-hour increments) between 9 AM-9 PM and they must remain in your child's room during their visit. Please be mindful of their behavior and noise level. Understand that if they become too active or too noisy, it may start to affect your child or the babies nearby and we will have to ask you to take them out of the unit. Our goal in the CCDH is to keep a quiet and restful environment for your sick child to grow and heal. Siblings ages 5 and above are welcome to visit RJ's Activity Center (second floor). Speak with the Child Life Specialist for more information.

Food and Drink: To keep your child's room clean and to prevent the spread of infection, we must ask that you eat near the couch area of the room and dispose of any trash promptly after eating. Please keep your area of the room neat and clean and wash your hands after eating.

Patient/Family Belongings: Any belongings brought from home must be clean, in good condition, and appropriate for your child's age and medical condition. All blankets, clothes, and soft toys from home should be washed regularly. Please keep items to a minimum. Furniture from home is not permitted. Electronics and other valuables can be stored in the safe in your child's room when you are not at the bedside.

Visitation for friends and other family: We ask that you continue to partner with us to ensure that your friends and family follow these guidelines. Ask them to wash their hands upon arrival, before touching your child, and when leaving.

There are two types of visitors:

- 1.) **Support Visitors** are persons that you may select to visit your child whether you are here or not. You may name up to four persons to fill this role. These visitors will not be given any details or updates on your child's medical condition. However, it is possible that they will hear or see treatments or procedures simply by being at the bedside and observing during their visit. If you choose to identify visitors in this role, you will need to fill out the CCDH Visitation Request Form. If you change your mind later, you may take a name off the list, but you will not be able to replace that name with a new name. We encourage you to take the time to think about who you feel would be the most supportive to you and your child throughout the entire hospital stay.
- 2.) **General Visitors** are persons that you wish to visit while you are here with your child. In order to provide your child with a safe and protected environment, general visitors must be 16 years of age or older. Aside from parents/guardians, please limit guests to two at a time in the room (4 total people in room). Your nurse may temporarily limit the number of visitors further based on the needs of your child.

Visitation Restrictions: If an outbreak of contagious disease occurs in the community, temporary visitor restrictions may be implemented to protect the health of our patients. We reserve the right to limit visitation if a patient's status dictates or non-compliance of these guidelines.

Should you have any questions about these guidelines, please do not hesitate to speak to your bedside nurse, charge nurse, manager, or director.