## **Designated Support List**

- NICU visiting hours are 24 hours a day for parents and four designated support persons.
- The four designated support persons must be at least 18 years old and may visit anytime with or without parents being present. They are required to show identification prior to entry into the NICU.
- Once selected, the names of the designated support persons may not be changed unless extenuating circumstances have been evaluated by assigned staff. Support persons are not allowed to bring visitors.

Parent/Guardian 1	Phone	
Parent/Guardian 2	Phone	
Gave Baby Buddy, and I Understand the Rule HUC (Initials and Date)		
Designated Support Persons		
1. Name	Relation	
2. Name	Relation	
3. Name	Relation	
4. Name	Relation	
Shot Records Received HUC (Initials and Date)		
Siblings		
Name	Age DOB	
Name	Age DOB	<u> </u>
Name	Age DOB	<u> </u>
Name	Age DOB	
	prientation Initials and Date	



# Visitation Guidelines

## Please help us provide a safe care environment for patients, family and staff.

- 1. Parents may visit their infant during NICU visiting hours.
  - a. NICU visiting hours are 24 hours a day for parents and four designated support persons.
  - b. Exceptions:
    - i. Only parents will be permitted to enter the NICU during hand-off/end-of-shift report (6:45 7:30 a.m. and 6:45 7:30 p.m.).
    - ii. Only parents or designated support persons will be permitted to sleep overnight in the NICU (one at the bedside and one in the waiting area).
    - iii. Only parents may be at the bedside for morning multidisciplinary rounds. Parents are encouraged to be present and available to participate in the care plan for their baby. Parents will be asked to wait in the NICU family waiting room while rounds are being presented on surrounding patients and will be invited to the bedside when the care team is discussing their baby.
- 2. The four designated support persons must be at least 18 years old and may visit with or without parents being present. They are required to show identification prior to entry into the NICU.
- 3. Once selected, the names of the designated support persons may not be changed unless extenuating circumstances have been evaluated by assigned staff. Support persons are not allowed to bring visitors.
- 4. All visitors that are not identified as a designated support person must be escorted to the bedside by a parent. Visitors cannot remain at the bedside without a parent present.
- 5. Only three people are allowed at the bedside at one time. A total of three people will be allowed on D7 at any one time. All other people will be asked to wait in the lobby of Tower D and rotate as desired.
  - a. For example: Parents and grandma at bedside while aunt waits in the NICU Family Waiting Room. Family and friends will wait downstairs in the lobby of Tower D (Butterfly Atrium).

## **Infection Prevention**

- 1. Individuals will not be permitted to visit if they have experienced:
  - a. A temperature >37.7° C (99.9° F) within the last 36 hours
  - b. Presence of cold, cough, diarrhea, dermatitis or conjunctivitis within the last 36 hours
  - c. Recent exposure (previous 21 days) to the chicken pox (varicella), measles or whooping cough (pertussis) virus and have not had the disease and/or your immunization is not up to date
- 2. Family members and visitors are expected to demonstrate hand hygiene and adhere to precautions that are in place for their baby. This includes the "Gel In and Gel Out" process and/or hand washing each time they enter/exit their baby's room and wearing gowns, masks or gloves as required.
- 3. Parents are strongly discouraged from bringing visitors or family members from other in-patient areas due to infection risks.



### During RSV Season (Approximately November - April)

This visitation policy is subject to change every year during RSV and flu season. Your nurse and Health Unit Coordinator (HUC) will update you when these changes take place.

- 1. Everyone who visits the NICU will be checked for any signs or symptoms of sickness (fever, chills, cough and cold symptoms) and will have their temperature taken.
- a. People with temperature greater than 37.7 °C (99.9 °F) will not be allowed to visit.
- 2. If there are any signs of sickness, then the family member or visitor will not be approved to enter the NICU until 36 hours after symptoms have gone away.
- 3. No siblings under the age of 12 years will be allowed in the NICU except under extenuating circumstances during RSV season. The NICU Medical Director must approve any sibling visitation due to qualifying situations during this time.

#### **Sibling Visitation**

1. Only the siblings of the infant in the NICU between 3-17 years old may visit during assigned sibling visiting hours. The siblings who are 18 years or older will follow standard NICU visitation guidelines, which includes showing identification.

Sibling visitation times are as follows: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday | 3 - 6:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday | Noon - 6:30 p.m.

- 2. Siblings must have a current, up-to-date shot record or NICU visitation will not be allowed.
- 3. To help the sibling get ready for what they will see, we ask that the family notify the HUC of the sibling's first visit several days ahead of time to allow time to meet with a child life specialist.
  - a. The HUC will make an appointment on the Child Life schedule and then will notify the NICU child life specialist of the upcoming first visit. On the weekend, the HUC will page the on-call child life specialist to tell them about the upcoming visit. If there has been a major change (new equipment, intubation, etc.) in the patient's condition since the last sibling visit, then a repeat appointment with the child life specialist is suggested to help support a positive visitation experience.
- 4. Siblings under 12 may not be left alone in the waiting area or in the NICU while their parent(s) visit their infant. Children's Medical Center staff is not allowed to look after siblings during their visit.

Visitation guidelines are subject to change based on current hospital policy and may be modified during periods of very high patient volume. Please ask your charge nurse or HUC for more information.

In special circumstances and when CDC recommends it, we will limit visitors to two, ages 18 and older. All common patient areas, playrooms, food service locations, lobbies and waiting areas would be included in this visitor restriction.



