

# Frequently Asked Questions: Your child's stay in the Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit (CVICU)

## **Can I stay with my child?**

Parents and guardians can be with their child at any time except during procedures requiring a sterile environment or during a potential hazardous exposure. Each room has a designated area where one parent can spend the night.

## **When will I meet with my child's doctors?**

- Brief surgical rounds occur around 6:45 a.m. Monday through Friday.
- Daily cardiology rounds are between 8 and 10 a.m.
- Multidisciplinary rounds begin daily around 9 a.m.
- Medical rounds occur around 4 p.m.
- A shift change report occurs around 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., when nurses change their shifts.

You are encouraged to participate in rounds and ask any questions you have.

## **Can we have visitors?**

Visiting hours end at 8 p.m. Your nurse will explain visitor guidelines at the time of admission. To protect patients and staff during the winter viral season, visitors are temporarily limited to parents and a few surrogate caregivers.

## **Can my child leave their room?**

If your child has been cleared by their physician to leave the room, their nurse can help them to the playroom or other hospital amenities. If the child must stay in their room, the nurse can help you choose activities to do in their room.

## **How will my child get food while they are staying in the CVICU?**

We offer room service for our patients staying in the hospital. A menu is located in each patient room. Call the number listed to order food of your choice to be delivered to your room. Orders can be made from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

## **How long until we can go home?**

Because each child is different, it's often difficult to predict a length of stay. You are encouraged to

participate in daily rounds to receive information, help develop care plans for each day as well as after discharge, and get your questions answered.

**How will I know how to take care of my child once we go home?**

The CVICU's multidisciplinary team will work with you to ensure you are comfortable with care before your child goes home. You will be educated about your child's condition and prognosis, medications, wound care, special equipment or therapies and developmental care.