



NICU WELCOME POLICY

As parents you are welcome to stay with your baby at all times

1. When can I visit my child?

The welcome hours in the NICU are 1pm to 9pm. All visitors must be accompanied in and out of the unit by a parent and they must sign the visitor's log.

- Children under the age of 14 are not permitted on the unit

2. How many people can visit at the same time?

No more than **three** people, including the parents, are allowed in the baby's room at the same time. Additional family members must wait in the NICU waiting room. As space is limited in the waiting area, we ask you to limit the amount of visitors at the same time. In certain situations, visitors may be asked to leave the room in order to ensure security and patient confidentiality.

3. What else should I know about visits at the NICU?

Please be considerate of other patients and their privacy. **Only visit your baby.** All medical information about your child is confidential. In order to protect all babies, please respect the NICU infection control regulations. You are responsible for passing this information on to all your visitors:

1. Remove all jewelry below the elbow, including your watch.
2. Before entering the unit, wash your hands and arms all the way up to your elbows. When entering or leaving your baby's room, please use the antibacterial gel located on the wall next to each patient room.
3. Place your cellphone in a clear plastic bag found at the reception desk and wipe the bag after you finish using it.

Anyone showing signs of a cold or gastrointestinal illness should wait two days after the symptoms have ended before visiting the NICU. All visitors must be vaccinated or already have had the chicken pox and measles. Parents experiencing symptoms of any illness should talk to their baby's nurse.

4. What if I need more support?

Privileged visitors are two people that you identify that can replace you at the bedside when you can't be there, even outside of visiting hours. Also, if one parent can't be there, a privileged visitor can come to stay with, and help the other parent (maximum two people at the bedside outside of visiting hours). Please note that no medical information will be shared with the privileged visitors.

**The safety of the NICU babies is a priority.
We ask that everyone collaborate in order to ensure these guidelines are enforced.**