

WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH VISITING POLICY

The nursing staff of the Women and Children's Health Department is eager to ensure the safety of you and your baby during your hospital stay. We take precautions to ensure you and your baby are safe. You can help us by doing the following:

- In the birthing rooms, the father or significant other and two (2) other people 14 years or older of your choice may be present for your birth. **Children under the age of 14 will be accompanied at all times by a responsible adult other than the patient. They may be present for the birth as long as prior arrangements have been made with the OB physician, and an adult is present to escort them out of the room if needed.** Any other visitors are asked to wait in the waiting room located just outside of Labor and Delivery. **Due to the need for your privacy and the privacy of other patients, we ask that no one stand or wait outside of your room.** Clear hallways are important for a quick response in emergency situations.
- In order to maintain an orderly, safe environment for our mothers and babies, if a visitor is asked to step out of the room for staff or doctors to perform patient care, the visitor should proceed immediately and directly to the waiting room.
- During epidural placement, only one person will be allowed to stay with you. There may be times when no visitors are allowed. This is at the discretion of the anesthesiologist.
- **If your delivery is by cesarean section, one support person will be allowed in the operating room if you are having regional anesthesia (spinal or epidural).** Patients requiring general anesthesia may not have a support person in the operating room. This is at the discretion of the attending Obstetrician and/or Anesthesiologist.
- Following your delivery, you will need time to recover and bond with your new baby. We ask that visiting times be brief to allow time for the staff to assist you with caring for your new baby; breastfeeding instruction and assistance; assessments; and most of all much needed rest.
- Siblings may visit in the birthing area with adult supervision. We ask that anyone visiting wash their hands before handling the baby. Anyone with recent illness should refrain from visiting.
- **One adult person may stay overnight** with you, the new mom, and baby through the hospital stay. **Other children or siblings are not allowed to spend the night.** Please make arrangements for their care prior to arrival at the hospital.

You will be transferred from Labor and Delivery to the Post Partum suites following your recovery period. Visitors other than the father/significant other, siblings and grandparents are encouraged to visit during the **regular hospital visiting hours of 12 p.m. to 8 p.m.**