

# Mercy Medical Center Visitation Policy Change

As of Monday, November 9, 2009

Visitors under 13 years of age will not be permitted to visit  
Mercy Medical Center.

Visitors should be limited to those essential to the patient's well being.

In the best interests of patients and staff, Mercy Medical Center has decided to restrict the visitation of those under the age of 13 years of age. Additionally, the Family Life Center for Maternity is placing a restriction of two visitors per patient at any given time. These decisions, reached after great consideration, are part of a comprehensive effort to reduce the risk of flu transmission in our facilities.

Although we understand this change in visitation policy may present an inconvenience, Mercy Medical Center joins other hospitals in the area in these restrictions in order to provide the safest possible environment for patients and staff.

In addition to the visitor restrictions, Mercy Medical Center also request patients:

- **Come to medical appointments alone, or with only one person.**
- **Do not bring children to medical appointments, unless absolutely necessary.**

These requests come as we attempt to decrease the amount of people in our waiting rooms. Children have been found to be more likely to transmit the H1N1 virus to others, and it is for this reason the restrictions have been put in place in our hospitals and waiting rooms.

We appreciate your cooperation with these measures as we all strive to maintain good health during this flu season. Mercy will provide an update when this visitation policy change is no longer necessary.

If you have any questions about individual circumstances, please speak with your physician or nurse. You may also call Morgan Gilmore, RN, BSN, Infection Control Practitioner, at 748-9362 or Kevin Sullivan, RN, BSN, CIC, Infection Control Practitioner, at 748-9383.

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