

Effective Nov. 5, 2009
we will no longer allow anyone under the age of
16 years to visit patient-care areas.

- H1N1 is more likely to occur among children who may be infectious for longer periods of time, even after symptoms are gone.
- In an attempt to limit the risks of exposure to our patients and staff, we are implementing this temporary policy.
- Exceptions may be granted for patients in extremis or very critically ill situations.
- The implications for seriously ill patients who contract the flu can be very serious, and while we empathize greatly for families, our number one priority and concern remains the well-being and health of our patients and employees.
- We understand that an open visitation policy is important to a patient's healing process and we will monitor H1N1 within the community and frequently re-evaluate this important policy during the winter and spring flu season.
- Other hospitals throughout our community and country are restricting young visitors to help reduce the exposure of this flu to patients.
- We hope this policy will limit the presence and spread of H1N1 throughout the hospital.

Thank you for your understanding. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us keep our patients and our employees safe.