Thank you for helping to keep our patients and employees safe!

As we enter the more active period of flu season, beginning Monday, January 14th, 2018, children ages 11 and younger are prohibited from visiting inpatient areas, waiting rooms, and operative waiting rooms at UNC Hospitals (including Chapel Hill and Hillsborough).

Frequently Asked Questions:

Why are children ages 11 and under unable to come to these units at UNC Hospitals?

We understand that visitor restrictions for inpatient areas and waiting rooms at UNC Hospitals present challenges for families and can be difficult for children who have a loved one in the hospital. However, it is important for the safety of our patients in these units children ages 11 years and younger not visit in-person at this time for the following reasons:

- Children ages 11 years and younger get sick more often than adults, and when children get sick their bodies do not fight off infection as fast as adults.
- Children with respiratory viruses can spread their illness to others for up to two days before they have any symptoms of being sick.
- Almost half of children with viral respiratory infections do not have any symptoms, but can still spread the illness.

We encourage children who wish to visit to write letters instead. We also encourage parents and friends to help children stay connected while these visitor restrictions are in place through Skype or FaceTime.

When should I not visit UNC Hospitals?

No matter your age, if you have a fever, an active cough, a runny nose with nasal congestion or a sore throat, you should not visit UNC Hospitals unless you are coming to receive medical care.