

## Physician Q & A

**1.) Do negotiations continue before, during and after a strike?**

Yes, negotiating teams will continue to seek an agreement using the services of a federal mediator. Children's is committed to reaching a contract that is fair to nurses, to other employees, and to the community.

**2.) How long will a strike last?**

There is no way to predict the duration of a labor dispute. Strikes in the health care industry have lasted as short as a few hours and as long as several weeks. In 1984, the last significant strike at Twin Cities hospitals, Minnesota Nurses Association (MNA) members were on strike for 39 days. Children's has received notice from the nurses union, indicating the intent to strike on June 10 at 7 a.m. until June 11 at 7 a.m. This notification affects both our St. Paul and Minneapolis hospitals. The other 12 hospitals in negotiations with MNA received the same notice.

**3.) In the event of a strike, when will physicians meet the replacement nurses?**

Replacement nurses will report to their assigned unit on the day of the strike. Before reporting for duty the nurses will have completed an off-site orientation that includes Cerner training. In addition, the nurses will receive a resource guide for the unit where they will be working.

**4.) What is the patient referral process in the event of a strike?**

In the event of a strike, the current referral process still applies. Children's Physician Access (Twin Cities metro area: 612-343-2121 or toll free: 866-755-2121) will be fully staffed to assist with admissions, consultations and other connections. Please do not send a patient to the hospital for admission without calling in advance.

**5.) How will bed capacity be managed?**

Children's will have a coordination center that will track current census, unit capacity and anticipated length of stay so we can predict discharges. Children's will have a centralized approach to monitoring availability on both campuses. For more updates, use Physician Access, (Twin Cities metro area: 612-343-2121 or toll free: 866-755-2121)

**6.) What will happen to elective surgeries previously scheduled to be done during the strike?**

The surgical schedule will be emergent cases only on the Minneapolis and St. Paul campuses. Throughout the 10-day strike notice period, the ability to do elective surgeries will be continually assessed.

*If you have questions that are not addressed in the Q & As, please contact one of us:*

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