Winter Visiting Guidelines: Outpatient to Inpatient Transition
Pointers for Clinics and ED Staff

When admission looks likely…

- Explain the visiting guidelines and give each family a Visitor Guidelines handout and the ED/Outpatient to Inpatient handout.
- Discuss transmission-based precautions with families, as appropriate. Inform families of any differences they can expect to see between ED/clinic and the inpatient department (e.g. PPE used for ED/clinic modified contact/droplet precautions versus inpatient contact/droplet precautions).
- Direct families to go to the Welcome Center to be screened and badged.
- Encourage legal guardians to find childcare as soon as possible for children under age 5 who are not being admitted.
- If legal guardians cannot arrange alternate childcare for the day of admission, children under age 5 who pass the wellness screening may accompany the family onto the patient care unit on the day of admission only.
- After the day of admission, children under age 5 will not be permitted to visit unless an exception is granted by the patient care manager or patient care supervisor.
- Patients should be transferred from the ED/clinic to the inpatient unit as soon as possible, regardless of the family’s ability to make alternate childcare arrangements for children less than 5 years old. Visiting guidelines should not interrupt patient flow.
- Legal guardians satisfaction improves significantly when families are informed of the visitor guidelines prior to or on the day of admission.
- Legal guardians handouts can be printed from Star Net > Visitor Guidelines.