Recommendations for ORTHOPEDIC transfer to CHCMN-Minneapolis campus or ORTHOPEDIC admission to CHCMN-Minneapolis campus for patients with Bone/Joint infections.

Dear Children’s Staff:

After nearly two years of managing osteomyelitis and septic arthritis on our two campuses, we have learned that a SUBSET of these patients may be better served with ready-access to the on-site Orthopedic supervision that the CHCMN-Minneapolis campus can offer due to its Orthopedic staffing for Level 1 Trauma coverage. This does NOT mean that all orthopedic cases, all osteomyelitis cases, or all septic joint cases are to be managed at the Minneapolis campus. Instead, we would like to articulate the 6 circumstances below in which we recommend transfer to Minneapolis.

Please consider transferring to the CHCMN-Minneapolis ER or admitting to CHCMN-Minneapolis campus for:

1. patients less than 1 year of age
2. bone or joint infections of wrist or hand
3. suspected multifocal osteomyelitis
4. suspected complicated osteomyelitis (osteomyelitis with thrombophlebitis or osteomyelitis with multi-organ presentation IE pulmonary involvement)
5. underlying immunodeficiency
6. concern for malignancy

Thank you for your assistance with this difficult subset of osteomyelitis cases as we strive to offer the very best care for our patients.