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CONNECTICUT CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER INSTITUTES NEW VISITATION POLICY FOR FLU SEASON

HARTFORD, Conn. – In order to provide the greatest protection for its patients, families, employees and visitors, Connecticut Children's Medical Center has made a temporary change to its visitation policy: Until further notice, no one under the age of 14 will be permitted to visit inpatient care units at its locations in Hartford and Saint Mary's Hospital in Waterbury.

This policy has been in effect at Connecticut Children's Neonatal Intensive Care Units in Hartford and at the UConn Health Center Farmington since November 1 and will remain in place until further notice.

"Children of a younger age are at higher risk for infection with flu-related influenza," said Susan MacArthur, Connecticut Children's Director of Infection Control. "Implementing this temporary change in our visitation policy will help ensure that we are caring for our patients in the safest environment possible."

For more information on preventing the flu, Connecticut Children's is encouraging people to visit www.cdc.gov/flu.

About Connecticut Children's Medical Center

Connecticut Children's Medical Center, the region's only academic medical center dedicated exclusively to the care of children, is committed to improving children's physical and emotional health through family-centered care, research, education and advocacy. Named one of America's Best Children's Hospitals by U.S. News and World Report, Connecticut Children's offers a full range of quality pediatric services at its hospitals in Hartford and Waterbury, Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICUs) in Hartford and Farmington, Specialty Care Centers in Fairfield, Farmington, Glastonbury, Hartford and Shelton and 11 other practice locations.

For more information, visit <u>www.connecticutchildrens.org</u> and connect on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/connecticutchildrens.</u>

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