We Care for Kids

Welcome to Pediatrics at Valley Medical Center. Our goal is to provide your child with the best possible care. We realize that being in the hospital is stressful for your child and family. If there is anything we can do to make you or your child more comfortable, or if you have any questions or concerns, please let us know.

Our medical and nursing team are here for you.

Entertainment/Family Room

The Family Room is located at the west end of the unit. Children must be supervised when playing in the Family Room for their safety. The Family Room offers books, movies and games. DVD/Nintendo Game Cubes are available for patients to check out. Just ask your child’s nurse. Additional books, coloring pages and infant/toddler toys are also available upon request. Please help us keep this room clean for all to enjoy.

GetWellNetwork

Your nurse may request you watch informational videos which pertain to your child’s diagnosis and plan of care. We also have a variety of recently released movies available, as well as wireless Internet access via the GetWellNetwork on your TV.

About Balloons

Mylar balloons are welcome in the Pediatric Unit. Latex balloons are not allowed because they are not safe for small children and can pose health problems to other patients.

Cell Phones and Computers

You may use your cell phones and laptop computers. Please respect those in other rooms by keeping your phones quiet and voices lowered after 9 pm. Room phones may be used to make local calls by dialing 88.

Birth Center
Neonatal ICU
Pediatrics

Northwest Pavilion
400 South 43rd Street, Renton, WA 98055
425.251.5198  valleymed.org/birth

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Prevent Infection with Good Handwashing

Many of our patients are placed on “Isolation Precautions” as a result of their diagnosis, which may include staff wearing masks, gowns and/or gloves. This helps prevent the spread of disease from patient to patient, as well as protect the staff. Staff will use hand sanitizing foam or wash their hands prior to entering the room as well as exiting.

Please wash your hands frequently while here in the unit, especially when providing care for your child. Please use the sanitizing foam as you enter and leave your child’s room. Please use it before entering the Nutrition Center as well.

All visitors must wash their hands before visiting your child, and may be required to wear a gown, mask and/or gloves if isolation is needed.

Visitors

Parents and grandparents are welcome to visit 24 hours a day. Friends and other relatives are also welcome, but your nurse may limit the number of visitors to minimize stress on your child or depending on your child’s condition. For safety, we ask that you let your nurse know who can visit your child when you are not here. Please discourage family and friends from visiting if they are ill with cough, sore throat, fever etc.

Restrooms

In addition to the bath and shower in your child’s room, there is a restroom for visitors in the front, middle hallway.

Sleeping Overnight

Sleeping accommodations are available for one parent to sleep overnight. For the safety of your child, he/she will need to sleep in the bed provided by the hospital. All children under the age of 2 years must sleep in a crib.

Having a parent or familiar adult at the bedside is a comfort for hospitalized children and you are encouraged to stay. We recognize that there may be circumstances which prevent this. Please let your nurse know if you or another responsible adult will not be able to stay with your child.

When sleeping overnight, please dress appropriately. Sweats and a t-shirt are preferred to nightgowns or pajamas. Shoes are required when walking around the pediatric unit: slippers with soles or flip-flops are acceptable.

Linen/Laundry

We will provide bedding for the sleeper sofa. We can also provide towels and washcloths for showers. If your clothing becomes soiled during your visit and you cannot get fresh clothing, you may use the washer and dryer on the unit.

Nutrition Center

Juice, milk, and small snacks are available for your child in the Nutrition Center along with assorted beverages for you. We are not able to provide food for parents and siblings, but if you wish to bring food from home you may reheat it in the microwave and store it in the refrigerator in your child’s room. Please be considerate of others and help us keep the Nutrition Center clean.

Meal Vouchers/Café/Vending Machines

Family and visitors may purchase room service meal vouchers from the cafeteria cashier for $5 each. Each voucher includes a main dish, side, drink and dessert. You may order meals from your child’s room between the hours of 7 AM and 7 PM. Vending machines are located just outside the entrance to the unit on the left. Trendz Café & Vibes Espresso Bar are located on the third floor. The cafeteria is open from 7 AM – 7 PM, and from 1 AM – 2:30 AM.

Daily Routine and Plan of Care

Your child’s plan of care may vary according to your child’s individual needs.

- Nursing assessment every eight hours—your nurse’s name and phone number is posted on the white board
- Vital signs every four hours, including throughout the night, unless needed more frequently based on your child’s needs
- Daily weight (between 11 PM and 7 AM)
- Safety and IV checks every 1 to 2 hours
- Monitoring fluid intake and output periodically throughout the day:
  - All diapers are weighed. Please leave them on the scale for the nurse. Baby wipes are not weighed.
  - Older children should use the hat or urinal and leave it in the bathroom for the nurse to measure.
- We will provide the parents of young children with a chart to record feeding amounts and times.