

Family Instructions for a 24-hour Block of Care on the Pediatric Ventilator Unit

What is 24-hour block of care?

A **24-Hour block of care** (also called Leave On Pass or LOP) is an independent care experience to offer both caregivers the chance to take care of the child in an unsupervised but supportive environment. Sometimes this is done at the bedside and sometimes it is done away from the unit at the Med Inn.

What do I need to do before a 24-hour block of care?

- Arrange childcare for other children (if necessary)
- Meet with respiratory staff to check equipment and supplies
- Meet with nursing staff:
 - Review the 24-hour care plan.
 - Keep a copy of the 24-hour care plan to take with you during your block of care

What is the schedule for the day of my 24-hour block of care?

- Arrive at hospital an hour before the start time of your 24-hour block of care (typically starts around 9:00am).
- Review all medications and respiratory medications with your nurse and respiratory therapist (delivered to your room by inpatient pharmacy)
- Review all medical equipment and supplies:
 - Hospital (bedside) ventilator:
 - Humidifier set up
 - Power cord
 - Your own portable ventilator:
 - Power cord

- Stroller/wheelchair
- Loaner or home nebulizer machine (if needed):
 - Power cord
- Portable suction machine:
 - Power cord
- Loaner Oxygen concentrator (if needed):
 - Power cord
- Your own saturation monitor and probe:
 - Power cord
- Loaner power strip with surge protector (if you are leaving the unit)
- Portable crib - provided by 12 West (if you are leaving the unit)
- Home therapy vest/cough assist (if needed):
 - Power cords
- Loaner/hospital feeding pump and bags:
 - Power cord
 - Formula
- Tracheostomy “Go Bag” with all emergency supplies
- Remember the other supplies you need: diapers, trach care supplies, suction catheters, clothes, bottles, baby food etc.

If you are staying bedside:

- There will be a sign on your door to remind staff that you are completing your 24-hour block of care.
- The expectation is that you will independently provide all care during the 24-hour block of care.
- One trained caregiver must be awake, alert, and attentive for the full 24 hours (you may take turns sleeping overnight).
- At no time should you or the child leave the medical campus. If you have questions about boundaries, please ask the Pediatric Ventilation Unit staff.

- If there is an emergency that you cannot address on your own ask the 12W/PVU staff to assist you.
- You may call out to 12W/PVU staff if you need any supplies
- You may call out to 12W/PVU staff for technical problems with the ventilator or any other equipment

If you are going to the Med Inn:

- Check in at Med Inn is usually between 12pm and 3pm. Check out is at 11am. You will most likely begin and end your 24-hour block of care in your 12W room.
- The expectation is that you will independently provide all care during the 24-hour block of care
- You are expected to move all supplies and set up the hotel room independently while always keeping one caregiver with the child.
- One trained caregiver must be awake, alert, and attentive the full 24 hours (you may take turns sleeping overnight)
- At no time should you or the child leave the medical campus. If you have questions about boundaries, please ask your PVU staff.
- If you have problems with the ventilator or any other equipment call the 12 West charge nurse at (734)232-6505. They can contact Respiratory Therapy if necessary.
- If there is an **emergency** call **911** and **mention your room number**: “I am in the Med Inn, room number _____”
- If there are problems with the Med Inn room call (734) 936-0100 or dial 0 from the room.
- If you have forgotten supplies, you may return to 12 West to collect them

Please remember: 12W/PVU staff cannot come to the Med Inn to assist you.

Helpful tips for success:

- The standard of care for a child with a tracheostomy and ventilator is that one person must be **awake, alert, and attentive** at all times.
 - Try to get enough sleep the night before.
 - Do not try to stay up for the full 24 hours. The two of you will have to trade off sleeping and staying awake. You will want to be refreshed enough to provide emergency care if necessary.
- The room can become quite warm with all the equipment, dress in layers.

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