

Visiting your loved one at the Intensive Care Unit



Welcome to the University of Michigan Health System



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The Intensive Care Unit is the place in the hospital where your loved one is staying.



Here we help people that
need special hospital care
for their bodies when they
are sick.



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When you visit the
Intensive Care Unit,
you may see many
different hospital
machines and hear
many special
hospital sounds.



Your loved one may be
getting their medicine
and food through a
special device called
an I-V.



I-Vs are like tiny straws that go in the skin when someone needs medicine or a drink quickly. It can even give a drink while a person is sleeping.



Every patient here
has a monitor that
checks his heart and
breathing.



Your loved one may
also have a
machine called a
ventilator that helps
him breathe.



Sometimes these machines beep or honk to let the nurses know we need to check on something. Different sounds gives us different messages.



Sometimes it can get noisy in here!



Your loved one may look a little different than he or she normally does at home.

He may have a bandage on his head, or she may look tired.



He may have tubes in his nose, mouth, or arms

We also have many people
here to take care of all
our patients, including
your loved one.

Sometimes it can get very
crowded in here!



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When you visit, you
can touch your
loved one.



You can talk to him
and tell him you
love and miss
him.



Or you can sit quietly
and hold her hand
for a few minutes.



It's okay to be
unsure about going
to visit your loved
one; sometimes
new things are
scary.



But remember that
underneath the tubes
and machines is the
same person you know
and love so well.





When you are visiting, please
feel free to ask the nurses or
your family any questions that
you have.

We hope you have a comfortable
visit and look forward to meeting
you!



Thank You for Reading

Author: Julie Boyer Hanley, MSN, RN

Reviewers: Julie Piazza, MS, CCLS,
Ruti Volk, MSI, AHIP

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Disclaimer: This document is for informational purposes only and is not intended to take the place of the care and attention of your personal physician or other professional medical services. Talk with your doctor if you have Questions about individual health concerns or specific treatment options.



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