

What are Special Precautions?

Information for Families and Visitors



This flyer explains the meaning of special precautions for patients and their visitors. Special precautions are guidelines we require visitors of certain patients to follow to prevent the spread of certain germs in the hospital to other vulnerable patients. Patients in special precautions will have a sign on their door that will give instructions on how to keep everyone safe. Please read the following guidelines and ask your care team if you have any questions.

- When visiting a patient in Special Precautions, family and visitors should **wear a gown and gloves if they will be participating in patient care activities**. (Patient care activities include bathing, wound care, trach care, etc.) Wearing a gown reduces the spread of germs onto clothing and out of the room.
- Family and visitors must remember to **clean their hands**, with soap and water (orange sign) or the hand sanitizer (green sign), when they leave the room of a patient in special precautions.
- Visitors are permitted to go to most public areas of the hospital, except the following areas:
 - Nutrition Room
 - Family Lounges
 - Child Life Activity Areas including: School and the Michigan GameDay Experience
 - Visiting other patients or their visitors

Thank you for keeping your loved one and other patients safe.

What do the signs look like?

The signs look very similar to the green and orange signs below:



Remember, cleaning your hands often will prevent:

- The spread of germs in the hospital
- Bringing new germs to your vulnerable loved one
- Taking germs home with you