Visitor Instructions: During an Outbreak

Please follow these directions while on our unit to help prevent further transmission of this infection:

1. Perform hand hygiene properly, for 15 seconds, with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water. There are 4 moments of hand hygiene we ask of you.

   **Moment 1:** When entering and exiting the hospital

   **Moment 2:** When entering and exiting the nursing unit and the client room

   **Moment 3:** Helping a client eat their meal

   **Moment 4:** Before and after helping with toileting or diaper change

Remember to clean your hands before eating and after using the bathroom, coughing/sneezing and blowing your nose.

How to clean your hands:
2. Only meet with one client per hospital visit.
   - Hospitals are full of germs and when there is an outbreak of a contagious germ we want to make sure it is not being spread. By only meeting with 1 client during your hospital visit this helps to prevent possible spread to the other clients.

3. Visitors are restricted to 2 people at a time.
   - The space between clients is small and when there are more than 2 visitors at the bedside it is easy to accidentally touch the curtain or other furniture of another client. This can spread germs from that client to your loved one or from your loved one to that other client.
   - Other visitors are encouraged to find a comfortable spot in the lounge to wait their turn to visit.
   - There may be individual circumstances that would allow for more than 2 at a time. Please discuss this with the nurse.

4. Avoid bringing children to visit when possible.
   - Children find it hard to sit still and like to explore their surroundings. When they wander and explore (even close to where you are visiting) they can very easily come into contact with germs from other clients. These germs can then be spread to everything else they touch and spread infections.

5. If you are ill, please delay your visit until you are well.
   - Clients in the hospital are more at risk of catching other infections. If you are not feeling well you may accidentally give it to your loved one.
   - If your loved one may pass away before you are well, please ask the nurse about what personal protective equipment you should wear to protect others from your germs.
   - Example: Wear a mask if you have a cold and be sure to practice hand hygiene blow your nose.

6. Avoid setting your belongings on the client bed.
   - There are lots of germs in the hospital. If you place your belongings on the bed your belongings become contaminated with germs. You then take these germs home with you and can make you and others in your home ill.
   - You may also have germs on your belongings and transfer those germs that were already on your belongings onto the client’s bed. Then they may become sick from these germs as well.
   - Do not sit or lay on the client bed. Similar to not putting your belongings on the bed, we ask that you not sit or lay on the bed to help stop the spread of germs. We have provided chairs for your visit and will find you one if you do not have what you need.