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The logo for Wyoming Medical Center, featuring a stylized 'W' and 'M' icon followed by the text 'Wyoming Medical Center'.

Media Release

Hospital Requests Children Stay Home

Casper – October 16, 2009 – For the health and safety of our youngest patients, Wyoming Medical Center has begun restricting child visitors to the pediatrics unit and The Birth Place. Effective immediately and until further notice, children under the age of 18 will be asked not to visit patients on either of these units. This restriction includes siblings of hospitalized children and siblings of a newborn.

“Children and young adults are more susceptible to the H1N1 flu and tend to spread infection more easily,” says Kristi Keller, Nurse Manager, Women and Children’s Health at Wyoming Medical Center. “Young patients, pregnant women, and newborns are more vulnerable to infection. We must take every precaution to protect them while they are under our care.”

A person can be contagious up to a day before they exhibit any flu-like symptoms. Wyoming Medical Center is seeing an increase in the number of people coming to the Emergency Room with flu-like symptoms. The hospital’s Emergency Room usually averages about 100 patients a day, in the past week, that has jumped to 140 patients on some days. Many of those patients are treated and released.

In addition to the restrictions in the pediatrics unit and The Birth Place, we ask you to not bring children (healthy or not) into the hospital to visit patients. The hospital is also asking people who are sick not to visit hospitalized loved ones. Prevention stations are in place around Wyoming Medical Center for your protection and the protection of others. They include surgical masks, tissues, and hand sanitizer. You are encouraged to wear a mask if you are in the facility with a cough or other respiratory symptoms. Use the hand gel when you enter and leave the facility or when you enter and leave a patient room.

We appreciate your cooperation.

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