

# TIPS for Parents

*by parents*

## THE PATIENT IDENTIFICATION BAND

Every patient is given an Identification Band when admitted to the hospital. The ID Band contains your child's name, date of birth, gender and medical record number and this information should be confirmed at the time of admission. The ID Band is used as an important safety measure in many aspects of your child's care and the hospital staff is trained to check the ID Band prior to certain activities. It is required that each patient has an ID Band on at all times when hospitalized. You can help keep your child safe while in the hospital by remembering these tips:

### Do not remove the ID Band.

- If the band falls off, loosens or becomes uncomfortable for your child, notify your child's nurse immediately.

### Make sure hospital staff checks the ID Band before:

- Giving medication – before every dose, every time
- Drawing blood
- Performing any test (e.g., X-ray, ultrasound) or procedure
- Transporting your child by hospital staff

Remember, even if the staff member is familiar to your child, they should compare the ID Band to the medication or physician's order every time.

### If your child has allergies...

- If your child has food or drug allergies, an additional red allergy band will be placed on the same arm as the ID Band.
- If your child is allergic to Latex, an additional purple allergy band will be placed on the same arm as the ID Band.
- Correct allergy information is important for your child's safety. Some medications include allergens, such as egg products.
- When your child is admitted, be sure the admitting nurse is aware of your child's allergies. Check to be sure that the ID Band includes important allergy information.

*You are part of  
your child's  
healthcare team!*