

## **H1N1 Interim Visitor Policy**

Due to the severity of the H1N1 flu and its potential to spread to children, expectant mothers, and other patients, Memorial Medical Center will implement an Interim Visitor Policy effective Monday, November 16, 2009:

**No visitors under 16 years of age and restriction to two visitors per each patient.**

- The County Public Health Officer has recommended visitor restrictions during the current H1N1 Influenza Pandemic. Memorial Medical Center implements this policy with the support of Stanislaus County Public Health Department in conjunction with other hospitals in the County.
- This decision is to keep our patient care and common areas as healthy and free from flu exposure as possible.
- The implications for infants, children and pregnant women who contract the flu can be very serious, and while we empathize greatly for our patients' family and friends, our first priority and concern remains the well-being and health of our patients and employees.
- This policy does not include patients who are younger than 16 years of age. It only pertains to *visitors*.

We hope that this strategy will aid in limiting the presence and spread of H1N1 throughout the hospital. While flu season typically ends in April, the policy will be in effect until further notice as there is no way to predict an exact end date for this flu season.