Treatment rooms

A treatment room is a place in the hospital where your child receives medical care. Healthcare providers can test your child’s blood, insert an IV (small tube that goes into a vein), place a feeding tube, or change a bandage in a treatment room. This helps your child feel safe in their hospital room.

Why does my child need to use the treatment room?

When your child uses the treatment room, it takes painful or uncomfortable medical care away from their bedside. Going to the treatment room tells your child medical care is starting, and leaving it means the medical care is over. Rather than feeling scared or worried in their own room, your child understands what is happening and feels safer in the hospital. They also calm down more quickly after medical care, are less afraid of doctors and nurses, and sleep better in their hospital bed.

What does the treatment room look like?

Many treatment rooms are colorful and have child-friendly artwork. They often have a TV, books, and other engaging features to distract your child from painful or uncomfortable procedures.

When can my child use the treatment room?

The treatment room is available 24 hours a day, but your child may need to wait if the room is being cleaned or someone else is using it.

Who can use the treatment room?

Treatment rooms are especially helpful for young patients, including babies, toddlers, preschoolers, school-age children, and pre-teens. Teens and young adults may benefit from using the treatment room, too.
Can my child use the treatment room if they are on isolation precautions?

If your child is on droplet or contact isolation, they can use the treatment room. However, they can’t use the treatment room if they are on airborne isolation precautions.

Do parents need to go into the treatment room?

Parents and caregivers are welcome to be with their child in the treatment room but do not always need to (especially with older children). If you choose not to be in the treatment room with your child, tell them when you’ll see them. For example, you might say, “I will see you when the nurse has finished putting in your IV.”