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SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS  
COMMUNICATIONS

# NEWS

CONTACT: SEDGWICK COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS 316-660-9370 FAX: 316-383-7509

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Contact: Jenni (Gluszek) McCausland  
Kristi Zukovich  
316-660-9370

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **H1N1 Flu Hospital Visit Recommendations**

(Sedgwick County, Kansas) – The Health Department and hospitals in Sedgwick County are asking the community to help prevent the spread of H1N1 and the seasonal flu by following the following recommendations when visiting hospital patients:

- **Don't bring children 12 and under to visit.** Children are more likely to get and spread the flu.
- **Visitors with flu symptoms should not visit hospital patients.** Flu symptoms include:
  - Fever (or feel feverish)
  - Cough
  - Sore throat
  - Runny nose
  - Body aches
  - Vomiting or diarrhea
  - Or if you believe you have been exposed to or have had H1N1 or the seasonal flu in the last week

“It is important those who have the flu not visit individuals who are ill from other diseases. Many hospital patients have compromised immune systems and are thus at increased risk for flu complications,” stated Sedgwick County Health Department Director Claudia Blackburn.

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Keeping children away from the hospital helps protect them too. Hospitals care for sick people who may or may not have the flu themselves. Children are at higher risk to catch the flu and when they do they often spread it to classmates and through the community.

Hospital visitors should also be aware that some units of the hospital, such as Pediatrics or the Intensive Care Unit, may have further restrictions. Check with the hospital before making plans to visit.

**Media Note:** If you have hospital-specific questions, please contact:

Charlene Gemar, Dole VA Medical Center, 634-3064 or [charlene.gemar@va.gov](mailto:charlene.gemar@va.gov)

Maria Loving, Via Christi, 268-8594 or [maria\\_loving@via-christi.org](mailto:maria_loving@via-christi.org)

Paul Petite, Wesley, 962-3030, [paul.petitte@wesleymc.com](mailto:paul.petitte@wesleymc.com)

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