

# WELCOME TO MEDICLINIC CITY HOSPITAL'S PAEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY WARD



Family-centred care is at the heart of the service provided on the Mediclinic paediatric oncology ward. When a child or young person is diagnosed with cancer, the whole family is affected. Because parents and families know their children best, we believe they are central to the care-giving process and we value their input and feedback. Parents are closely involved in treatment plans, and their implementation, both in the hospital and at home.

It is vital that our patients receive seamless care throughout their treatment pathway. This also allows families to spend more time together at home and for patients to remain involved in the life they had before cancer, enjoying hobbies and interests, seeing their friends and going to school.

Our paediatric oncology service is run a by a team that is truly dedicated to your child's wellbeing. All children who join our Mediclinic paediatric oncology family are treated holistically through researched evidence-based treatments with consideration to their emotional, psychological and physical needs. The team is here to support the whole family unit during this challenging time.

We have a play room on the ward which is equipped with toys and books for your child's use.

## **Nutrition**

We have a special menu for our paediatric oncology patients. We also provide snacks throughout the day, please just ask.

Meal times: Breakfast: 7:00-7:30. Lunch: 12:30-13:00. Dinner: 18:00-19:00.

#### **Visiting**

We encourage 'open' visiting at Mediclinic City Hospital's Paediatric Oncology ward and visitors are always welcome.

There are no set visiting times but after 7pm we reduce noise and activity to allow children and teenagers some quiet time before they go to sleep. We ask, therefore, that large groups of relatives and friends do not visit after this time.

We encourage parents to involve their child's brothers and sisters in their care. Having their siblings in the hospital with them is important to them, and they are very welcome on the ward.

Relatives and friends can be a great source of support at this time and can help with practical things such as shopping, laundry and school runs. They can also help by being a friend who will listen.

#### Who should not visit?

Please do not bring pets onto the ward.

Anyone who has been in contact with an infectious disease, such as hand, foot and mouth disease, chicken pox or measles, is not allowed on the ward.

If you feel this may apply to a member of your family or a friend, please discuss your concerns with staff.

## What can I bring?

Fresh flowers and plants are not allowed in the unit for infection control reasons. Helium balloons are a colourful alternative and are very popular among our patients.

If your child is to be admitted for an inpatient stay, you may wish to bring clothes and other items for both of you.

#### For your child:

- Clothes
- Nightwear
- Toiletries
- Comforter e.g. blanket or soft toy
- Medicines they may need
- Photographs of the family and pets
- IPads, Kindles etc.
- Feeding cup if using one
- · School work if they feel up to it

# For you:

- Clothes
- Nightwear and dressing gown
- Toiletries
- Hairdryer
- Books and magazines
- · Medicines you may need
- Mobile phone
- Pen/notepad