

Visiting Hours

At Littleton Hospital we believe being surrounded by the love of family and friends can be a powerful healing tool. For this reason in our ICU we do not have set visiting hours. We request only two visitors per patient at any one time.

Comfortable waiting rooms outside the unit are available for additional family members and friends. Children must be accompanied by an adult and must remain in the patient's room while visiting.

Food and flowers are not allowed in the patient rooms but mylar balloons, stuffed animals and cards are encouraged. In some cases further restrictions may apply so it is always best to contact the nurses' station prior to coming to the hospital to visit.

Contact

For general questions or concerns about the ICU at Littleton Adventist Hospital, please contact the nurses' station at 303-730-5823.

*HIPAA Code Content

Infection Prevention

The vulnerability of the patient population in the ICU makes infection prevention even more critical. All doctors, nurses or other health care providers should clean their hands by washing with soap and water or using waterless hand sanitizing foam before entering the patient's room. Visitors also should clean their hands before having contact with the patient.

If there is an "Isolation Precautions" sign posted on the door of the patient's room please talk to the nurse before entering the room. All visitors will need to obtain a gown, gloves or mask from the isolation cart outside the room depending on the type of isolation and put them on prior to entering the room. Follow the nurse's instructions.

Many patients in the ICU are hooked up to a series of monitors and machines that may seem overwhelming and frightening but are necessary for continuous welfare monitoring. Some patients may require the assistance of a ventilator to breathe or the placement of a central line catheter in order to allow for a continuous flow of fluids. The risk of infection for these patients is potentially higher, so Littleton Hospital has multiple measures in place specifically designed to minimize this risk and ensure the best care possible for our patients.



The Intensive Care Unit at
Littleton Adventist Hospital
**EXPERTISE YOU CAN TRUST
WHEN IT MATTERS MOST.**

Littleton Adventist Hospital

 Centura Health.

Intensive Care Unit – 5 South (Patient Rooms 551 - 574)

Welcome to the intensive care unit (ICU) at Littleton Adventist Hospital. Our highly-skilled interdisciplinary teams take care of patients who are critically ill and require continuous, comprehensive care. The medical team is led by an intensivist with special training in critical care medicine. At Littleton Hospital many of the intensivists are also pulmonologists who are internal medicine physicians with special training in diagnosing and treating pulmonary (lung) and respiratory tract disorders. On call around the clock, they are able to assess each patient's condition continuously, intervene rapidly and communicate regularly with the patient's family and primary care physician. Specially trained critical care registered nurses staff this unit. Joining the patient care team as need arises are trauma-trained surgeons, neurosurgeons, orthopedists, clinical pharmacists, respiratory therapists, physical, occupational and speech therapists and nutritionists.

As a group, the ICU interdisciplinary team round on each patient daily to ensure a unified approach to care and that every detail of the care plan is being followed.

Also available as a resource for patients and their families in the ICU is the Palliative Care Team. The Palliative Care Team of physicians, nurses, chaplains, and social workers helps facilitate optimal communication by focusing on the patient's preferences for his/her own care, managing pain and other distressing symptoms, assisting with advance directives or care planning beyond the hospital, and providing emotional and spiritual support. Their goal is to help patients relieve the physical, emotional and spiritual distress that can accompany a serious illness.



Staying Informed

Because of the severity of the illness or traumatic injury of the patients in the ICU much is involved in their care. That is why communication between the patient (if possible), their loved ones and members of the ICU interdisciplinary team is so important.

If possible please select one family member or friend to be the primary contact as this helps avoid confusion and ensures all questions and concerns get answered. Having questions written is also helpful. The primary contact can also be the designated keeper of the code that will be required in order for the patient's medical information to be released over the phone. At Littleton Adventist Hospital we are committed to protecting personal medical information from any use for which it was not intended. This code identifies the caller as someone we can provide information to and helps protect the patient's privacy, in compliance with federal regulations (HIPAA).*

If needed family conferences are offered to update members on the patient's condition, treatment options and prognosis. The goal of these conferences is to identify a course of treatment that should be taken based on the patient's preferences and values.