# Admissions Criteria for Pediatrics

**Title:** ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR PEDIATRICS  
**Policy #:** 126.850 (peds)  
**Effective Date:** 9/82  
**Revised Date:** 8/06, 5/09  
**Policy Type:** Departmental

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<tr>
<th>Job Title of Reviewer:</th>
<th>Director, Women’s and Children’s Services</th>
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## Purpose:
To establish policies for patients eligible for admission to the Pediatric Unit.

## Policy Statement:
Patients may be admitted to the Pediatric Unit for the following:

1. Elective and emergency, medical and surgical procedures, and psychiatric evaluation.
   a. Children five years old and younger, admitted for any elective surgical and/or anesthetic procedure, must have a pre-op physical (Pediatric clearance completed within (5) days of surgery and on the chart) from a pediatrician or family practitioner. This pediatrician or family practitioner does not have to have staff privileges.

2. Readmission of a newly delivered mother who is less than 17 years of age.

3. Incarcerated pediatric patient (refer to Corporate Policy #00.PAT.08, “Care of the Prisoner (Forensic) Patient”).

## Exceptions:
Young adults by virtue of diagnosis (chronic childhood disease, i.e. sickle cell), common surgical procedure (i.e. tonsillectomy), or developmental status (i.e., Downs Syndrome) may be admitted to Pediatric Unit per physician and patient/family preference, and after a nursing assessment identifies that the patient is developmentally, physiologically and psychologically appropriate.

## Definitions:
1. **Pediatric patient** is defined as age range from birth through 17 years.

2. **Length of stay** will be determined by the admitting physician.

## Procedures:
1. Nursing personnel will assign a room and bed designation based on availability at the time of admission.

2. Nursing personnel will follow established procedures for admission of the patient.
RESPONSIBILITY: It will be the responsibility of the Director of Women’s and Children’s Services to see that the staff is aware of, and adheres to, these department policies.


SMH Nursing Department Policy. (2008). Admission of Post partum Mother with Baby Following Initial Discharge from Hospital (126.179). SMH: Author.

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Jennifer Mayer, MD, All Children’s
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## APPROVALS:

Signatures indicate approval of the new or reviewed/revised policy

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title: Pam Beitlich, Director, Women's and Children's Services</td>
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**Committee/Sections (if applicable):**

| Nursing Standards and Practice Council | 5/7/09 |

**Vice President/Administrative Director (if applicable):**

| Signature: | |
| Name and Title: Jan Mauck, Vice President, Chief Nursing Officer |