

St. Jude Parents

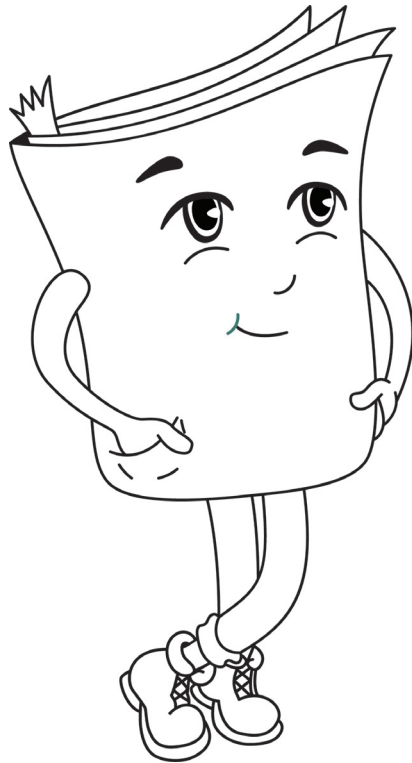
FEBRUARY 2016

Use passport to record patient journey

St. Jude patients will soon have a creative and fun new way to record their treatment journeys. In early 2016, the Child Life staff will roll out the St. Jude Patient Passport Program. It takes the place of the longtime Treasure Chest Program.

Much like jet-setters who have filled their passports with the stamps of many countries during their travels, patients will be able to collect stamps each time they visit a clinic or patient care area that is taking part in the program. Each clinic and service worked with Biomedical Communications to create a stamp unique to their area.

“Child Life is always exploring ways to create chances for patients to receive more positive reinforcement,” said Child Life specialist Amanda Brody. “We also try to create ways for patients to record their personal journeys throughout the treatment process.”



The new program is designed to give patients more ownership and control of their hospital experiences.

The St. Jude Patient Passport Program differs from other legacy building programs, such as the Legacy Bead Program. The main focus of the St. Jude Patient Passport Program is to encourage patients to set goals, and it motivates them in fun ways to achieve those goals.

In addition, the program will allow parents to document their child's journey. The program will help reinforce positive behaviors in a more consistent way and cut down on the clutter of so many small toys.

The program was also created with staff members in mind. It allows them to help patients gain a sense of control, and it keeps staff involved in recognizing each child's efforts.

During the next few months, Child Life specialists will provide details of the St. Jude Patient Passport Program to families at information tables next to the ABC Wall. Please talk to your Child Life specialist if you have questions.

Understanding MRI safety rules can help keep you and your child safe

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans may be used to take pictures of the inside of your child's body using a large magnet, radio waves and computers. The MRI magnet is very strong and will attract metal objects, causing them to become hot or move quickly toward the scanner. Having metal on your clothes, shoes or even in your body, could be dangerous for anyone in the room. For this reason, safety rules must be strictly followed in the MRI area.

The area before you enter the MRI scan room is restricted. The staff calls this area Zone III; it includes the induction rooms.

Only one caregiver may go with the patient to the MRI area. Other caregivers and siblings must remain in the waiting room. This may require changes to travel plans so that another caregiver can watch siblings.

Patients and caregivers must remain in what the staff calls Zone II until they have both completed the MRI screening process. Caregivers will need to be screened in this area before moving to Zone III whether or not they plan to go into the MRI scan room with the patient.

These rules promote the safest environment for our patients and families.

If you have questions or concerns about the safety rules for the MRI scan area, please talk to your child's doctor, nurse, MRI technologist or radiation therapist.



Memphis police officers now part of security at St. Jude

In December, St. Jude Security began hiring off-duty, uniformed Memphis Police Department (MPD) officers to provide around-the-clock police presence on the St. Jude campus. These officers are working together with the current Security staff to ensure that our campus continues to be safe and secure for patients, families, employees and visitors.

MPD officers will be stationed at each campus entrance while the gates are open, and one MPD officer will patrol the campus at all times. This level of security is common at other academic campuses and hospitals. This program will go through a three-month trial period, so the Security staff can test how well it works at St. Jude.

Please welcome these MPD officers to the St. Jude family.

To reach Security at any time, call 901-595-4444.



Talking about Medicines

Special delivery: Pharmacy follow-up calls for oral chemo delivered to homes

By Shane Cross, PharmD, Pharmaceutical Services

Many St. Jude patients are prescribed oral chemotherapy (chemo) as part of their treatment. Oral chemo is any cancer-fighting medicine taken by mouth. When the St. Jude Pharmacy gives you oral chemo drugs at the hospital, a pharmacist provides you with a Patient Medication sheet and medicine counseling. The pharmacist can help answer any questions you might have about the drug.

If your child's doctor allows it, we can deliver some courses of oral chemo by FedEx to your home address. An adult must be at home to sign for this type of medicine delivery.

It is important for you to be well informed about the proper use of your child's medicines. The St. Jude Pharmacy works hard to ensure the safe and correct use of oral chemo. This includes making sure that the medicine is delivered to the correct person and that you clearly understand how to use it.

If you receive a new chemo drug or a change in the dose of oral chemo at home, a St. Jude pharmacist will call you after the FedEx package has been sent. The pharmacist will ask if you received the right medicine and will briefly review the correct use of the drug. The pharmacist also can answer your questions about the oral chemo or other drugs that your child is taking.

If the pharmacist cannot reach you to discuss your child's oral chemo, please call the St. Jude Pharmacy. We want you to confirm that you received the medicine and to briefly review the guidelines for giving the drug to your child. Every oral chemo order sent by FedEx will include a note card that tells you how to contact the St. Jude Pharmacy.

If you have questions about this process or about any of your child's medicines, please call the Pharmacy at 901-595-4166. If you are outside the Memphis area, dial the Pharmacy's toll-free number, 1-866-820-2442.

Your newsletter

Do you have an article idea that should be featured in the *St. Jude Parents* newsletter?

The editors would like to share your tips, thoughts, poems and stories with other St. Jude families. If you have ideas for the newsletter or comments about an issue, please email parents_newsletter@stjude.org or call 901-595-4639.

The *St. Jude Parents* newsletter is produced especially for you. If you cannot pick up a copy at the hospital, it can be sent to you by email. To be added to the monthly email list, send your request to parents_newsletter@stjude.org or call 901-595-4639. To subscribe to an online version of the newsletter visit www.stjude.org/parents-newsletter.

Six new Security call stations installed

Security has added six new call stations to the parking lots near the Chili's Care Center, Tri Delta Place and the Translational Trials Unit. Call stations are already located near the elevators on every floor of all three St. Jude parking garages.

When you push the call station button for help, the call is connected directly to the Security Control Room, which is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The security control officer will send an officer to

assist the call station user.

These call stations are for anyone who needs help, and it doesn't have to be an emergency. If you have car trouble, feel sick, see something suspicious or need a lift to a building, push the call station button.

If you need to reach St. Jude Security at any time without going to a call station, dial 901-595-4444.



St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

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St. Jude Parents is published on the first of each month by Family-Centered Care Services and Biomedical Communications. Your questions and comments are important to us. **We want to print advice and tips from St. Jude parents to other St. Jude parents.**

To share your ideas or to receive this newsletter by email, please call or email Alicia Huettel, RN, MSN, at 901-595-5453 (parents_newsletter@stjude.org) or Lois Young (lois.young@stjude.org). To subscribe to an online version of this newsletter or to learn more about *St. Jude Parents*, visit www.stjude.org/parents-newsletter.

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