July 2020

**Pediatric Triage Criteria**

* Patients 21 years of age or under should generally be triaged to Pediatrics.
* Patients 18-21 can go to either pediatrics or adult zones depending on ED current state (physician staffing, nursing staffing, volume, critical patients in pediatrics) as determined by the Charge RN, and the Pediatric and Intake Attendings
  + *Communication between Triage RN, Charge RN, and the zone attendings is essential.*
* Patients 22 to 25 years of age may be seen in pediatrics if approved by the Peds ED attending (verbally ask the pediatric attending before sending the patient in). Peds attending can be reached at 78729 or 47151. If there is disagreement, the peds attending and the PIC will discuss directly before the patient is placed in a zone.
* Patients 17 years of age or under may be seen in Intake if approved by the Intake ED attending (verbally ask the intake attending before sending the patient in). If there is disagreement, the peds attending and the PIC will discuss directly before the patient is placed in a zone.

EXCEPTIONS:

* Patients 18 and older that are a possible threat to or inappropriate to be placed next to children and families should not go to pediatrics. Examples:

Think:

Would you put them next to your child?

* + Patients who appear violent, cursing at staff, threatening, sexually inappropriate
  + Patients with a primarily psychiatric complaint
  + Patients under arrest
  + Patient seeking detox
  + Intoxicated patients that are violent or vulgar
    - A calm intoxicated patient may go to pediatrics
* This is about safety of the other children in the zone, not about staffing or volume.

Pediatric Psychiatric ED Clearance

* All patients 17 years of age or under who need clearance for the psychiatric ED should be cleared by the Pediatric ED Attending.
* Patients 18 to 21 years of age may be cleared by Pediatric Attending or the PIC
* Patients 22 or older should be cleared by the PIC or Acute Attending.
* Patients 12 years or under will be seen by psychiatry in the Peds ED.
* Patients 13 years or older may go to West if medically clear.
* Patients who are not cleared:
  + 17 or under go to Peds
  + 18 or older psychiatric patients should be placed in an adult zone for safety
  + Exceptions for safety and appropriateness of patients should be considered just as in a medical triage