

Luke's FastBreaks Hospital Visit Helpful Hints



It's amazing how something as small as a shirt can make a child feel significantly better during their fight with cancer. Even if it's just a 5-minute conversation it's 5 minutes where the child and his/her family can stop thinking about the pain, stop thinking about the medical bills and stop thinking about the diagnosis.

You get the chance to distract those families and make them SMILE!

Dress code for the visit—please wear closed-toed shoes and pants. I usually wear jeans with tennis shoes since we often do a lot of walking and lifting our medical shirt bags in the hospital.

On our visits it's important to remember only the pediatric patients receive Luke's FastBreaks medical shirts. If a parent or sibling asks for a shirt offer them a bracelet, a cookie (if the hospital allows) and you can even give them a pillowcase to color! We want to make sure that everyone feels special on our visits from the families to the patients to the hospital staff.



When you approach each child and his/her family make sure to get down on his/her level by bending down on a knee. That makes it less intimidating for the child. Introduce yourself and tell them you have a "really cool shirt" for them that will replace the hospital gown. Then start unsnapping a few of the snaps on a demo shirt showing the parents and the patient how the medical shirt works. I usually explain how our medical shirts will help them have easy access to their ports, lines and tubes.



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One of the reasons patients love our shirts is because of how comfortable they are. Unfortunately, they also shrink pretty badly. It's a good idea to suggest going a size up since we want these shirts to last a while for the children/teens.

Always ask the child and his/her family for the patient's shirt size first (we have Toddler—3T & 5T, YOUTH small, medium, large and ADULT small, medium, large, XL, XXL) then bring the correct size bag over for the child to choose the color they would like.

Since we have different colors for different sizes you will likely run into a problem if you walk up to a girl for example and ask if she wants a hot pink shirt then we don't have any hot pink shirts in that size. We try to bring a variety of colors and sizes on every visit, so every child likes their shirt and is happy, but sometimes we run out of the popular colors.

*Thank you for your willingness to
serve with Luke's FastBreaks!*

*Britton Lynn, Executive Director
Britton@LukesFastBreaks.com*

