



PEDIATRIC SAFE AREA CHECKLIST*

ITEM	NO	YES
Are needle boxes at least 48 inches off the floor?		
Do the windows open?		
Are the windows locked?		
Are there window guards?		
Do the windows have blinds or drapes that might pose a strangulation hazard?		
Are there any water basins, buckets or sinks that might pose a drowning hazard?		
Can children be safely contained in this area (consider stairwells, elevators, doors)?		
Do you have distractions for the children (age- and gender-appropriate videos, games, toys)?		
Is the area poison proof? (Check for cleaning supplies, Hemocult developer, choking hazards or cords that should be removed or locked away.)		
Are the electrical outlets child safe and covered?		
Does the area have smoke and fire alarms?		
Are med carts and supply carts locked?		
Should separate areas for various age groups be created?		
Have drills for managing this area been conducted with all relevant departments?		
Is there a security plan for the unit?		
Is there a plan to identify the children?		
Is there a plan for assessing the mental health needs of children?		
Are there any fans or heaters in use? Are they safe?		
Is there an onsite or nearby daycare center? Could they be of help?		
Is there enough staff to supervise the number of children? (Younger children will require more staff.)		
Are there a sign-in and sign-out sheet for all children and adults who enter the area?		
Will children need to be escorted away from the safe area to bathrooms?		
Are age-appropriate snacks available for children?		
Are there sleeping accommodations available (i.e., foam mats on the floor)? Are there enough to avoid co-sleeping (to reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome)?		

*Adapted from the Chicago Department of Health