



## I Speak Up

As a patient, you play a vital role in helping to make your medical care safe by being an active, involved and informed member of your health care team. We use the acronym, “I Speak Up,” to help you understand ways to actively participate in your care.

**I**nfections can occur after many types of medical procedures. Within our medical facilities, we wash our hands or use alcohol foam when we enter your room and after we provide care. Don’t hesitate to remind anyone caring for you to wash his/her hands.

**S**peak up if you have questions or concerns. If you don’t understand the answer, ask again. After having tests or procedures done, ask what your results were.

**P**ay attention to the care you receive. We will check your wrist band to confirm your name and account number. This helps to ensure that you are getting the right medications, treatments and procedures. Don’t hesitate to tell your hospital caregiver if you think you have been confused with another patient.

**E**ducate yourself about your diagnosis, medical tests and treatments.

**A**sk a trusted family member or friend to be your advocate.

**K**now what medications you take and why you take them.

**U**nderstand your care plan, including instructions for care at home.

**P**articipate in all decisions about your care and treatment. We will ask you to verify that the correct procedure is being performed. We will answer all clinical alarms quickly. If you request that your room door be closed for privacy, we will ask that you use your call bell if a clinical alarm rings. This will help us to respond to any alarm promptly. .