THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AT OU MEDICAL CENTER

Medical Play Dolls

You can support our patients and improve their hospital experiences by sewing medical play dolls. Use the patterns on the following pages to sew these meaningful dolls.

Our Child Life specialists work with these blank, stuffed, body-shaped dolls to explain health care experiences to children. The dolls also allow the children to express themselves creatively by decorating and personalizing the dolls with non-toxic permanent markers. The dolls then become a part of the treatment process and children take them home when they are discharged. Medical play dolls:

- Allow staff members to develop a rapport with children
- Help children relax in the hospital environment
- Encourage children to prepare for and cope with their treatment process – the doll can be used to show where an injection will be given or what posture or body position is desired
- Help staff assess a child's perceptions and feelings, as talking about the doll, instead of about themselves, helps children explore concerns in a non-threatening way
- Provide a wonderful source of comfort for children
- Give an outlet for creativity and purpose, as children decorate and personalize them



For more involvement opportunities, visit www.OUmedicine.com/SupportChildrens.

We appreciate your generosity!



