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For Immediate Release

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Banner Health lifts visitor restrictions at all hospitals

2015-2016 cold and flu season starts to wind down

PHOENIX, Ariz. (May 10, 2016) – As the flu and cold season winds down, Banner Health has lifted visitor restrictions at all of its hospitals. Restrictions for the 2015-2016 cold and flu season were implemented in late December of last year.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that people get the flu shot every year to help prevent transmission of the illness. Banner’s “No Flu for You” campaign requires all employees be vaccinated against influenza. Employees who choose not to be vaccinated must either wear a mask during the cold and flu season while at work or forego employment at Banner.

In addition to these precautions, to avoid getting sick, the CDC recommends washing hands with soap and water frequently; avoid contact with eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands; and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces, such as toys and doorknobs, especially if someone is sick.

Headquartered in Arizona, Banner Health is one of the largest nonprofit health care systems in the country. The system owns and operates 29 acute-care hospitals, Banner Health Network, Banner – University Medicine, Banner Medical Group, long-term care centers, outpatient surgery centers and an array of other services, including family clinics, home care and hospice services, pharmacies and a nursing registry. Banner Health is in seven states: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Nebraska, Nevada and Wyoming. For more information, visit www.BannerHealth.com.