“Some things I have learned from my experience as a mom in the hospital”......

If you are being admitted through the ER, call the CF center and your doctor or the doctor on call will alert the ER you are coming and the tests that need to be done. Time in the ER can be lengthy so bring a book or a kindle! Also, when heading the hospital bring a change of clothing & toiletries for yourself & child. Any comfort items your child likes, blanket/dolls, etc., books & things they enjoy doing. Each time we have gone to the ER we have been admitted to the hospital. So depending on your distance from the hospital, I would plan for the most instead of the least.

You will answer the same questions many times with the ER staff, when admitted to the floor and then when the rounds are done the next morning and through your stay. The initial intake takes the longest and it helps if you have a notebook with certain symptoms, doctor visits or a list of medication with names, dosage amount & times. Depending on your insurance, you might want to bring your medication with you to the hospital.

Regarding meals - you are able to bring food from home & store it in the large refrigerator in the kitchen or the small fridge all rooms have (a microwave is also available). Utensils & napkins are available but no plates. Also, the nurses have a book at the desk with the take out menus from the area to look through and all deliver to the hospital.

XBox game systems are in the rooms and games can be borrowed on a daily basis from the child life room as well as videos & DVDs.

E-cards are awesome and so easy. The hospital has a link and they will print out the cards that people email. My husband and I put the link on our Facebook pages and our daughter received actual cards from our friends and family that the hospital prints out - very cool. She got so many! It really made her feel good.