

## ORIENTATION TO NEWBORN NURSERY

Welcome to the Newborn Nursery. It is hoped that you will learn and acquire the necessary skills for the evaluation, examination, and in-hospital management of the healthy newborn infant. It is also important to be able to recognize and know how to treat those infants with problems that require more intensive management.

During this short rotation you will be asked to assume the role of a general pediatrician who will examine newborn infants within the first twenty-four hours of life, at the time of discharge, and assist in the management of infants with problems.

### Routine Practices:

1. When you arrive in the nursery scrub for **3 minutes** at the scrub sink. Do not wear your white coat in the nursery. Cover gowns are available if needed.
2. Wash your hands with soap and water or alcohol-based foam **between handling** babies and charts. Replacing a pacifier or soothing a crying baby between patients necessitates a rewash.
3. Clean the diaphragm and bell of the stethoscope with alcohol before and between babies. Measuring tapes and tongue blades should be disposed of after the examination.

The above routines are necessary to control nosocomial infections. Your cooperation is **expected**. If you have any questions about a physical finding, the attending or house officers are willing to help you. Students **can** pick up important findings in patients, so you are encouraged to share your findings. If you have questions about routine procedures, please ask the attending or housestaff.

### Newborn Nursery Schedule for Junior Medical Students

You are expected to be at Morning Report (8:00 a.m., Mon. through Thurs.) and Grand Rounds (8:00 a.m. Fri.). On the first day report to the Nursery before Morning Report at 7:00 a.m. and the pediatric resident will orient you to the nursery. The general pediatric attending or resident will go over a newborn exam with you as a group after Morning Report. For the remainder of the week, you will examine newborns on your own each morning as assigned by the resident. Infants are to be examined in the mother's room unless otherwise notified. Examine the infant in the bassinette unless they are already on an exam table. Remember to wrap the baby well afterwards to prevent heat loss. If the baby is already under a radiant warmer, make sure the side rails are up before leaving the baby. If the mother has questions about the exam or the plan that you don't feel comfortable answering, let her know that you will check with the team.

You should observe Discharge Teaching one-on-one with a mother. Attending rounds are at 10:00 a.m. daily. You will be expected to present any new assigned babies and all babies that carry over from previous days. You may be asked to present a short talk on a nursery topic on Thursday mornings. You are encouraged to attend deliveries with the team. You should be finished in the Newborn Nursery in time for noon lectures. In the afternoons you should see new babies, attend deliveries, and read about newborn problems. On Wed. afternoons you will attend the NICU follow-up clinic, and you are encouraged to attend the General Inpatient Attending rounds on Thurs. at 2pm. You are not expected in the nursery on weekends or holidays.

This schedule may vary at the discretion of the attending and/or resident.

There is a student teaching notebook in the nursery as well as other teaching materials available for your use in the nursery.

Please remember that if you will be absent or late, call Janis Richardson 721-3781 AND the newborn nursery at 721-2277.

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	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:00	Orientation	Arrive to see your patients			
8:00	Morning Report				Grand rounds
9:00	Orientation				
9:15					
10:00	Attending rounds				
11:00	Circumcisions and Teaching time				
12:00	Leave for noon lecture				
1:00			NICU Follow-Up Clinic		
2:00		Independent Study	NICU Follow-Up Clinic	General Inpatient Teaching Rounds (4C)	
3:00	Chief Jeopardy (every other Mon.)				
4:30	Check out			Check out	

## NEWBORN PHYSICAL EXAM GUIDELINES

### Objectives:

1. Evaluate the infant's transition to extrauterine life.
2. Distinguish normal variations from congenital deformities and/or malformations.
3. Recognize indicators or changes that reflect physiological problems and neurobehavioral status.
4. Determine the infant's plan of care and follow-up.
5. Discuss breast feeding benefits and how to handle basic breast feeding problems.

### Components of Physical Examination:

1. Observation - alertness, color, presence of distress, posture, symmetry, gross anomalies
2. Inspection - head to toe, looking and feeling
3. Auscultation - heart, lungs, abdomen
4. Palpation - pulses, liver, spleen, kidneys, head

### NOTE:

1. Complete newborn examination as demonstrated by pediatric attending.
2. Preview Neonatal Physical Exam video by Dr. A. Robertson located in the MCG library prior to or on the first day of the nursery rotation.