

Document Code:	DPOTMH-NSD-DR-SOP003
Revision Number:	0
Effective Date:	10-30-2020
Document Type:	Standard Operating Procedure
Page Number:	1
Department/Section:	Delivery Room
Document Title:	THERMOREGULATION ON INFANTS

PURPOSE:

To outline the nursing care management of a neonate to help maintain a normal thermal environment.

OBJECTIVE:

To be able to deliver nursing care management according to the quality standard procedure maintaining the thermal environment of a neonate.

RESPONSIBLE PERSON:

Attending Physician, Resident on duty, Registered Nurse, Registered Midwives, Student Nurses and midwives with supervision from their Clinical Instructor

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

- 1. Infants should be placed to mother's chest for skin to skin contact right after delivery provided, that the baby is stable.
- Rectal temperature of the newborn should be taken immediately after delivery. If temperature is below normal range, infants should be dried, wrapped and placed in a pre-warmed crib.
- 3. Hands and stethoscope should be warm before handling infants.
- 4. Infants should be dressed and well-wrapped in blankets when placed inside the crib.

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EQUIPMENT NEEDED:

- 1. Bassinet or crib
- 2. Baby's dress and mittens
- 3. Bonnet
- 4. Blankets
- 5. Rectal Thermometer
- 6. Drop light

PROCEDURE:

- 1. Delivery Room staff increases the temperature in the labor room/recovery room to 75 degrees Fahrenheit / 24 degrees Celsius by turning off the air conditioning unit to prevent heat loss due to convection.
- 2. Delivery room staff pre-warms the crib by using a drop light.
- 3. Delivery room staff places warm blankets/towels on the crib.
- 4. Delivery room staff places infant to skin to skin with the mother and warm blanket over her or under a radiant heat source after delivery. Both ways provide a heat giving environment to the infant.
- Delivery room staff dries infant with warm absorbent blankets and/ or towels and immediately replaces used blankets and/or towels with new warm ones. This prevents evaporative heat loss.
- Delivery room staff warms hands and stethoscope before coming in contact with infant.

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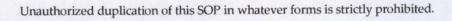


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- Delivery room staff keeps infant away from air conditioning ducts and other drafts.
- 8. Delivery room staff keeps oxygen directly over infants nose and mouth (if needed).
- 9. Delivery room staff maintains infant's temperature between 36.5° C 37.5° C while with mother after delivery.
- 10. Delivery room staff assesses infants for sign of hypothermia. Usually hyperthermic infants are warm to touch and exhibit red skin due to vasodilation related to releasing excess heat.
- 11. Delivery room staff assesses infant's temperature through rectal thermometer.
- 12. Delivery room staff transfers infant to the nursery and reports to the Nursery staff on thermoregulatory status if it is not possible to maintain infant's temperature at 36.5° C.

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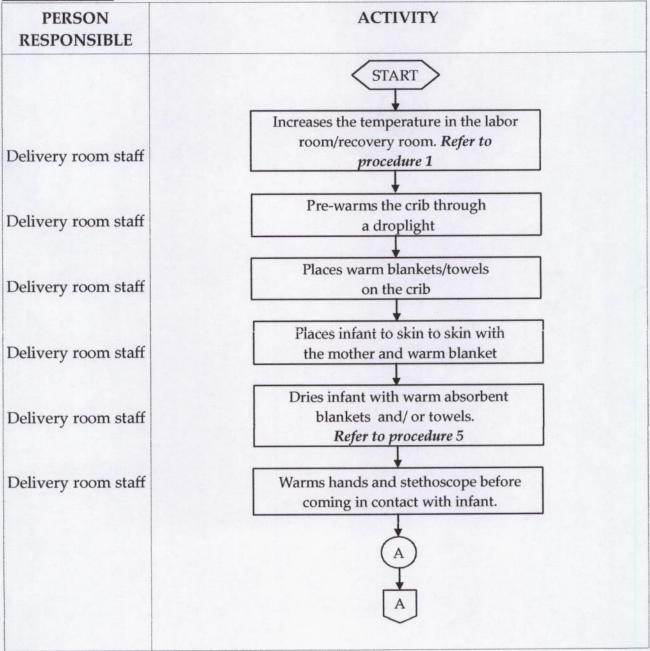






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FLOWCHART:



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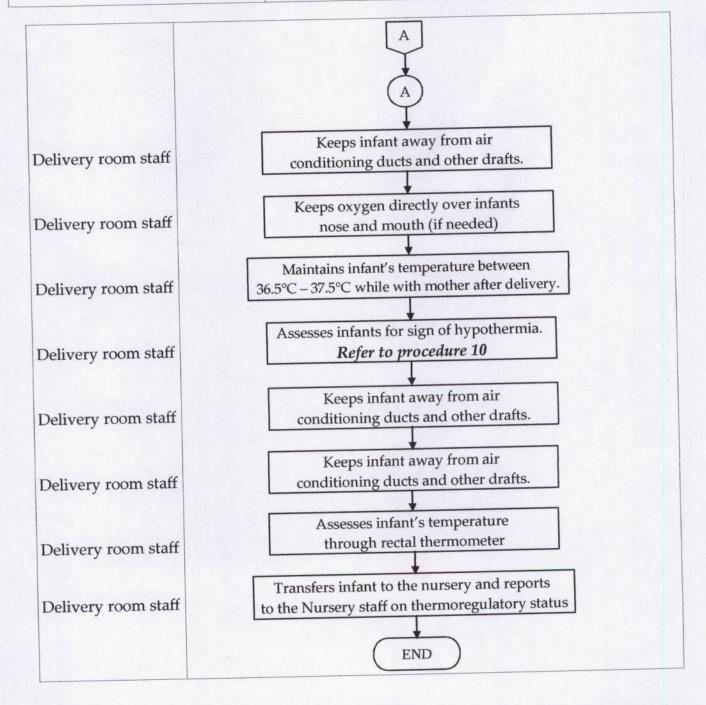
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