

Document Code:	DPOTMH-I-29-P06	
Effective Date:	09-30-2021	
Document Type:	Policy	
Page Number:	1 of 6	
Department/Section:	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit	
Document Title:	SAFETY OF NEWBORN	

PURPOSE:

- 1. To provide a quality care to the newborn while in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.
- 2. Newborns deserve the right to receive the best possible care in a safe environment, one that is continually working to improve processes that can lead to preventable errors in care.

LEVEL:

Medical Doctor, Registered Nurse, Midwives, Attendants and Mothers

DEFINITION OF TERMS:

Humpty Dumpty Falls Scale (HDFS) is a seven-item assessment scale used to document age, gender, diagnosis, cognitive impairments, environmental factors, response to surgery/sedation, and medication usage, is one of several instruments developed to assess fall risk in pediatric patients¹.

POLICY:

The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit recognizes the pre-natal and post-natal delivery health care for newborns and their mothers especially critical to their survival and well-being, therefore we offer a confidential, protective shelter, and if necessary medical care to newborns and offer and encourage the mother to seek medical assessment and treatment.

- 1. Before birth, mother shall be informed of the complex routines as well as security measures by the unit.
- 2. After the baby is delivered, the mother and baby shall receive matching identification bracelets.



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- 2.1 Mother shall personally verify that the bands have matching name, date and time of delivery, birth weight, gender and mother's name.
- 2.2 Bracelet shall not be loose enough to slip off.
- 2.3 Take note of the baby's appearance, hair color, amount and the weight.
- 2.4 The baby shall be positioned at the far side of the bed, away from the door.
- 3. Upon admission to the NICU, the staff shall provide an anklet to the baby for double identification, with the same information in the wristlet provided by the delivery room personnel.
- 4. The NICU shall have a clearly identified entrance and reception area for families. Families shall have immediate and direct contact with staff when they arrive at this entrance and reception area.
- 5. The NICU shall be designed as part of an overall security program to protect the physical safety of infants, families and staff in the NICU. The NICU shall be designed to minimize the risk of infant abduction.
- 6. Visitors, family members, physicians, nurse and other personnel shall wash hands before entering the unit.
- 7. To come into physical contact with a patient, all jewelries and watches shall be removed and long sleeves shall be rolled up above the elbows.
- 8. Physician's white coat shall not be worn inside the complex.
- 9. Patient care provider shall wash hands before and after patient contact.
 - 9.1 Alcohol based hand rub may be used when regular hand washing is not possible.
- 10. Artificial and long fingernails shall not be permitted in a clinical setting.



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- 11. Fingernails shall be clean, well-trimmed and not longer than ¼ inch from the fingertip length.
- 12. Personnel shall be free of skin lesions, fever, vomiting, diarrhea, and reportable communicable diseases.
- 13. Anyone with an upper respiratory infection shall avoid entering the complex.
 - 13.1 Visitor shall use mask until symptoms abate.
 - 13.2 Gloving before patient contact is advisable.
- 14. Disposable diapers shall be used for all infants.
- 15. Any object falling to the floor shall be discarded, washed, and disinfected or sterilized.
- 16. All equipment shall be cleaned, disinfected, or sterilized between each infant's uses.
- 17. All unused linen left in infant's bed upon discharge shall be rewashed or discarded.
- 18. For those mothers who desires to breast feed her infant, proper assessment shall be observed.
- 19. The Humpty Dumpty Falls Scale shall be utilized by the unit as a guide in assessing the patient's risk for fall. All incidence of fall shall be reported to the Nursing Service Division office and Total Quality Division.
- 20. Before leaving the hospital, NICU staff shall check mother's identification band if it matches to the baby's identification band.
 - 20.1 Mother shall personally check here baby's identification band.



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- 20.2 Mother shall look at the baby's features, the first she identified after birthhair color, amount, birth weight, the gender.
- 20.3 For a boy, mother shall check if whether or not the baby is circumcised.
- 20.4 If the mother have photos taken at birth, she can also use those for comparison.
- 21. The process for "Claiming of the Baby During Discharge" stated in the Admission and Discharge of Patient to Neonatal Intensive Care Unit policy shall be strictly followed.



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DOCUMENTATION:

Revised Policy

DISSEMINATION:

- 1. Hospital Communicator
- 2. Manual of Policies and Procedures

REFERENCE:

Marketing Communications: Web, University of Notre Dame. (n.d.). *NICU Standard 5:* Safety/Infant Security. NICU Recommended Standards. Retrieved July 23, 2021, from https://nicudesign.nd.edu/nicu-standards/nicu-standard-5-safety-infant-security/

¹Pauley, B. J. (2014). *Clinical relevance of the Humpty Dumpty Falls Scale in a pediatric specialty hospital*. PubMed. https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/25134228/

Marketing Communications: Web, University of Notre Dame. (n.d.-a). *NICU Design Standards*. NICU Recommended Standards. Retrieved July 23, 2021, from https://nicudesign.nd.edu/nicu-standards/



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