



HEALTH HOLDING

HAFER ALBATIN HEALTH
CLUSTER
MATERNITY AND
CHILDREN HOSPITAL

Department:	Infection Prevention and Control Department		
Document:	Departmental Policy and Procedure (DPP)		
Title:	Well Baby IPC Guidelines		
Applies To:	Nurses and Technician		
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1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To provide guidelines for Prevention and Control of infection in Well baby.

2. DEFINITONS:

- 2.1 Well baby department is a specialized department, designed to accommodate healthy newborn who requires only basic nursing care. The absence of normal flora at birth and contact with microbial flora in utero during delivery and postnatal period with personnel, family and equipment increase neonatal host factors forms infection risk.

3. POLICY:

- 3.1 Standard Precautions shall be observed when caring for infants and neonates. Hand Hygiene is mandatory following "5 Moments of Hand Hygiene".
- 3.2 Topical prophylaxis against neonatal eye infection should be administered within 1 hour of birth or immediately after the initial breastfeeding in the delivery room.

4. PROCEDURE:

- 4.1 Well baby Staff:
 - 4.1.1 Floating or rotation of staff shall be avoided to ensure that new born is protected from contact of pathogens from the hospital.
 - 4.1.2 Head nurse shall refer personnel with infection to employee health clinic.
 - 4.1.3 Personnel who are providing patient care shall be free from symptomatic contagious diseases.
 - 4.1.4 Personnel with oral herpetic lesions may provide direct care if masks are worn, hand washing is performed and meticulous attention is given to keeping hands away from lesions.
- 4.2 Attire:
 - 4.2.1 Scrub suits shall worn by assigned nursery personnel. It should not be worn outside the nursery unit. Short sleeved garment shall be worn for routine care in infants to allow proper hand washing.
 - 4.2.2 Strict compliance to the use of gowns, cap and mask to all nurses, doctors and other personnel coming inside the nursery
- 4.3 Traffic Control:
 - 4.3.1 Visitors shall be restricted in the nursery to prevent crowding and potential for infection and interruption of work activities.
- 4.4 Restrict visitors to:
 - 4.4.1 Immediate family.
 - 4.4.2 Siblings - sibling's visit shall be restricted to viewing newborns under parental supervision in mother's room and if not recent exposure to communicable diseases has occurred to which the siblings is susceptible.

- 4.4.3 Separate heavy congestion areas such as storage areas and nursing station from immediate patient care areas.
- 4.5 Space Requirements:
 - 4.5.1 Specific space requirements shall be maintained to reduce crowding and potential for cross contamination and infection.
 - 4.5.2 An average of 30 square feet/bassinets (3 square meters) and 3.3 feet (1 meter) between each and every bassinet in all directions.
- 4.6 Isolation:
 - 4.6.1 Special isolation precautions are indicated for infants born to mothers with known history of suspected infections and or communicable disease, e.g., Herpes, Rubella.
 - 4.6.2 Monitor for signs and symptoms of infection as manifested by temperature instability, apnea, Cyanosis, decreased O₂ saturation, Thrombocytopenia and feeding intolerance
 - 4.6.3 Newborn of known mothers with HBsAg + shall receive Hepatitis B vaccine and immunoglobulin within the first 72 hours after birth.
 - 4.6.4 Babies transferred from other hospitals and growing multi organisms are isolated until cultures are negative
- 4.7 New Born Bath:
 - 4.7.1 First bath must be given only after the baby is stabilized, thereafter twice per Week . No need of daily bath.
 - 4.7.2 Staff shall wear protective barriers to protect from any sort of splashes.
 - 4.7.3 Proper umbilical care must be given during first bath, thereafter whenever indicated
- 4.8 Equipment:
 - 4.8.1 Incubators, bassinets and isolates shall be washed with an approved disinfectant following uses on each patient and maximum 7 days when in use for prolonged periods. For thorough cleaning send for incubator cleaning room. Phenolic disinfectant must be avoided. (Phenolics may be toxic if absorbed through skin particularly in neonates and associated with high bilirubin level in neonates).
 - 4.8.2 Nebulizers shall be replaced and sterilized every 24 hours. Sterile distilled water shall be use at all times for filling.
 - 4.8.3 Sharing of equipments in the nursery shall be avoided.
 - 4.8.3.1 Disposable equipments shall be used if possible
 - 4.8.3.2 Each patient shall have his own non-disposable equipment, e.g., Stethoscopes, disinfected after each use, wipe with 70 % Isopropyl alcohol, Thermometer washed with soapy water dried and wiped with alcohol and stored dry.
 - 4.8.4 Reusable invasive devices shall be sterilized or exposed to high level disinfection
- 4.9 Infant Formula:
 - 4.9.1 Commercially prepared ready to use formula shall be monitored closely for the expiration date. The formula shall be observed for discoloration, curdling or any signs that might indicate spoilage.
 - 4.9.2 Infant formula once opened shall have name, date and time of opening .If unused and refrigerated for 24 hours and in room temp. 4 hours. If the milk had contact with mouth of the baby ,it is considered as contaminated and the remaining of that feed must be discarded.
 - 4.9.3 Infant formulas if prepared in the hospital shall:
 - 4.9.3.1 Be prepared according to written policies and procedures.
 - 4.9.3.2 Be fed to the infant within 4 hours if kept at room temperature and for 24 hours if refrigerated.
- 4.10 Expressed Breast Milk:
 - 4.10.1 Disposable sterile bottle shall be used
 - 4.10.2 Use disposable nipples for each feed.
 - 4.10.3 Use separate breast pumps for each mother and clean appropriately after each use
 - 4.10.4 Give extracted milk within four hours. Storage of Supplies:

- 4.11 First in first out (FIFO) system shall be observed in storing sterile supplies, medications or formulas to avoid expiration of supplies.
- 4.12 Housekeeping:
 - 4.12.1 Routine cleaning should be done daily. General cleaning of nursery is done weekly.
 - 4.12.2 All equipments, suction and incubators are cleaned with disinfectants.
 - 4.12.3 Floors and walls shall be cleaned periodically when visibly soiled or when contaminated by BBF spills. Fresh chlorine bleaches (1:10 dilution with water) to clean BBF spills (according to procedures).
 - 4.12.4 Housekeeping equipment shall be exclusively used in nursery only.
 - 4.12.5 Strictly no eating inside the nursery room.
- 4.13 Linen:
 - 4.13.1 Linen in the Nursery should be free of laundry chemicals that may cause toxic effects and skin irritation.
 - 4.13.2 New linen should be laundered before initial use.
 - 4.13.3 Clean linen should be received wrapped and converted and stored in enclosed cart or cabinets in the unit away from contamination.
 - 4.13.4 Soiled linen shall be placed in a covered hamper and should be handled in accordance with handling soiled linen policies and procedure.
 - 4.13.5 Soiled diapers should be placed in a covered receptacle.

5. MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT:

- 5.1 **Forms and Records:**
 - 5.1.1 N/A
- 5.2 **Materials and Equipment**
 - 5.2.1 N/A

6. RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 6.1 It is the responsibility of the Infection Prevention and Control Staff to implement this policy.








7. APPENDICES:

- 7.1 N/A

8. REFERENCES:

- 8.1 Clinical Best Practice Guideline Infection Prevention & control Review, 2011 .[www.crto.on.ca/pdfppg/infection control cbpg.pdf](http://www.crto.on.ca/pdfppg/infection%20control%20cbpg.pdf)
- 8.2 APIC TEXT of Infection Control and Epidemiology. Published February 8, 2016

9. APPROVALS:

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