



NICU SAFETY COMMITMENT

Parents, staff, and visitors all have a role in making the NICU a safe place for you and your baby.

To ensure you and your baby are safe during your NICU stay, here is a list of some safety measures we use in our unit:

- Special training for staff and volunteers
- Mother/baby badges that are a special color
- ID banding and barcode scanning for all medication and feeding
- A special security bracelet on your baby's ankle once he or she moves to an open crib or bassinet
- Security doors on all mother/baby units

There are also things you can do to help your baby stay safe:

Please do not sleep with your baby in your bed, while holding your baby, or while providing kangaroo care.

- If at any time you feel weak or dizzy, do not hold or carry your baby. Call your nurse for help.
- If you are holding or providing kangaroo care and start feeling sleepy or plan on sleeping, call your nurse to assist with putting your baby back in his or her bed.
- If you fall asleep while holding your baby or providing kangaroo care, your nurse will move the baby back to his or her bed.

To keep your baby sleeping safely in the hospital and at home:

- Do not sleep with your baby.
- Place your baby on his or her back in a crib for every sleep.
- Once in an open crib, use only sleep sacks. Do not use blankets to swaddle your baby.
- Approved developmental positioning aids are the only items allowed in the crib. Once your baby is close to discharge, there should be no items in the crib with your baby.
- Babies who fall asleep in a bouncy seat, swing, or other device should be moved back to their crib.
- Babies who fall asleep in their car seat should be moved to a crib once they are no longer traveling in the car.



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■ Babies are at a higher fall risk due to new surroundings and equipment.

- The sides of the bed (warmer, isolette, or crib) must remain up and locked in place at all times.
- After providing care for your baby, always check the clamps and doors on the bed to make sure they are latched.
- Please allow your baby's nurse to remove and return your baby from a warmer or isolette.

■ Please use a chair without wheels when holding your baby. Except during Kangaroo Care (skin to skin), please wear a hospital gown over your clothing when holding your baby.

■ Babies who are moving to a different room should ride in a crib, bassinet, or isolette and should not be carried.

- Do not allow anyone who is not wearing an appropriate colored ID badge to remove your baby from the room. Make sure the photo matches the person wearing the badge.
- If in doubt about anyone in your room, immediately call your nurse.

■ Room curtains should remain open except during breastfeeding so the nurse can see the baby and monitor. If you need more privacy, you can close the curtain of the parent area.

■ Please do not touch any medical equipment, or silence any alarms. Monitors, pumps, ventilators, oxygen tubing, and other equipment should only be adjusted or silenced by the nurse or other trained staff.

■ Please do not visit your baby if you have been sick or exposed to someone who has been sick. This includes any fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, or rash.

■ Please make sure you and any other family members or visitors are up to date on all recommended immunizations.

■ Please do not smoke before holding your baby.