

Discharge of infant to postnatal ward

Purpose

All infants who are discharged from the NNU, with all ongoing care being handed over to parents and midwifery team on the postnatal ward.

Principles of care

Safety of infant

Effective communication

Equipment

Cot, Documentation, Discharge checklist

Procedure

- Infant identified as being appropriate for discharge back to postnatal ward by both nursing and medical staff.
- Ensure baby check has been completed and documented on infant's TRAK.
- Decision to discharge discussed with Mother's named midwife, to ensure discharge back to ward safe and appropriate.
- Inform parents of decision to discharge back to the ward.
- Staff member caring for infant must ensure discharge checklist is complete and discharge letter is ready. (see pic 1) If infant falls under criteria led discharge, nurse must ensure that criteria led discharge form is completed and signed by either a middle grader, team leader or special care coordinator. (see pic 2)
- Infant can then be taken back to postnatal ward by staff member caring for infant. All personal belongings and required paperwork must be with infant on discharge.
- On the postnatal ward, the infant must be handed over to the receiving midwife. X2 name bands must be present on infant and checked with midwife. Name band must include infants name, date of birth, hospital number and gender.
- It is important to highlight to midwife if any further antibiotics will be required following discharge from NNU.
- Infant must be transferred into postnatal ward cot. NNU cot must be returned to dirty utility room for cleaning.
- Ensure all discharge documentation complete on badger and infant is removed from bed space.

Pic 1

Discharge Checklist for Ward Babies

- Check
- Green pulse oximetry screen
- Letters
 - X1 to parents
 - X1 in notes
 - X1 in tray at desk
- Brown notes to ward
- X2 name bands
- Handover to midwife
- Check drug kardex with midwife
- If on antibiotics add to Calton allocation sheet
- Discharge books
- Return visitors and parents passes

Pic 2

Criteria Led Discharge

Baby's Name and DOB: _____

Baby's CHI or Hospital Number: _____

Date of Admission: _____

Criteria for discharge (please tick all that apply):

- Observations currently within normal parameters (heart rate, respiratory rate, temperature)
- Breathing unassisted in room air for ≥ 6 hours
- Normal blood sugar
 - ≥2.0 for term infant in first 48 hours after birth
 - ≥3.0 for term infant after 48 hours of age
 - ≥2.5 for 35 or 36 week infant

Has had 2 good feeds

Other (please specify criteria):

Signed _____

(Must be a middle grader or consultant)

This baby achieved all of the above selected criteria at (time and date): _____ and there are no new concerns with the baby.

Baby's pre-ductal sats _____ and post-ductal sats _____ as measured on Masimo Rad G monitor. (Must be green pathway)

Time antibiotics due handed over to Tier 1 medical staff (if appropriate): _____

Signed _____

(Must be a middle grader, team leader or SCBU co-ordinator)

The baby must be discharged to PNW with a discharge letter completed. The baby should complete minimum 24 hours NEWS unless an alternative plan is made by the PNW consultant.

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