

costs and provide adequate mother–newborn care with minimal complications (see [Community Focus](#) boxes).

## **Community Focus**

### **Early Newborn Discharge Checklist**

**Feeding:** Adequate latch-on and suckling demonstrated for breastfeeding newborn; successfully feeding 1.5 to 2 oz of formula every 3 to 4 hours with minimum spitting up and no vomiting

**Elimination:** Voiding every 4 to 6 hours or more often; one stool passed in first 24 to 28 hours

**Circumcision:** Evidence of voiding; nonbleeding circumcision (does not require pressure); no excess edema at site

**Color:** Pink centrally and buccal mucosa moist; no evidence of jaundice in first 24 hours

**Cord:** No signs or symptoms of infection; if used, drying agent applied per institution protocol (see [Care of the Umbilicus](#))

**Newborn screening:** Completed phenylketonuria (PKU) and other screenings per state law

**Vital signs:** Stable heart rate, respiratory rate, and temperature for at least 12 hours before discharge; no apnea

**Activity:** Wakeful periods before feedings; moves all extremities

**Home visit or primary practitioner visit:** Follow-up appointment within 48 hours after discharge

## **Community Focus**

### **Newborn Home Care after Early Discharge\***

**Wet diapers:** Minimum of 1 for each day of life (day 2 = 2 wets; day