



- NICU.10.1.6 Knowledge of dosage range, side effects and complications of commonly used medications such as surfactant and high alert medications used in neonatal care including vasopressors, narcotics, and controlled medications.
- NICU.10.1.7 Infection control principles.
- NICU.10.1.8 Blood transfusion and exchange transfusion.
- NICU.10.1.9 Sarnat and Thompson Scoring.
- NICU.10.1.10 Use of the defibrillator.
- NICU.10.1.11 Care of patients on ventilators.
- NICU.10.1.12 Care of endo-tracheal tube (ETT).
- NICU.10.1.13 Care of patients with tracheostomies.
- NICU.10.1.14 Care of the terminally ill and end of life patients.
- NICU.10.1.15 Care of patient in incubator.

NICU.10.2 There is ongoing competency assessment for the nursing staff (e.g., written test, return demonstration).

NICU.10.3 The competency assessment of the nursing staff is documented.

Standard Intent:

Qualified nursing staff members are hired by the hospital through a process that matches the requirements of the position with the qualifications of the prospective staff member. This process also ensures that nursing staff member's skills are initially and over time consistent with the needs of patients. Ongoing evaluation and competency assessment ensures that training occurs when needed and that the staff member is able to assume new or changed responsibilities. Training and competency assessment should be undertaken for the procedures mentioned in substandard NICU 10.1.1 through NICU.10.1.15.

NICU.11 The neonatal intensive care unit has adequate equipment, supplies, and diagnostic services.

NICU.11.1 There are isolation rooms with at least one negative pressure room.

NICU.11.2 The following equipment are available:

- NICU.11.2.1 Ventilators.
- NICU.11.2.2 Suction apparatus.
- NICU.11.2.3 Airway sets.
- NICU.11.2.4 Crash cart that includes defibrillator, all emergency supplies, and medications as appropriate to neonates.
- NICU.11.2.5 Infant resuscitator.
- NICU.11.2.6 Incubators.
- NICU.11.2.7 Portable incubator with portable ventilator.

NICU.11.2.8 ECG monitor, pulse oximetry, and vital signs monitor.

NICU.11.2.9 Automated blood pressure monitoring machine.

NICU.11.2.10 Intravenous infusion and blood transfusion pumps.

NICU.11.3 The availability and functionality of all tools and equipment are checked daily.

NICU.11.4 Equipment are cleaned and disinfected daily and as needed.

NICU.11.5 Portable equipment for safe patient transports are available.

NICU.11.6 Laboratory and imaging services are available to meet the needs of patients receiving neonatal intensive care.

Standard Intent:

Risks in clinical care processes are significantly reduced when appropriate and well-functioning equipment is used to provide the planned services. Adequate supplies and medications are also available and appropriate for planned use and emergent situations (substandard NICU.11.2.1 through NICU.11.2.10). Each organization understands the required or recommended equipment, supplies, laboratory and imaging services as well as the medications necessary to provide the planned services to its patient population. The equipment should have a process of daily checking to ensure availability and adequate functionality and should be disinfected regularly after and before use.

NICU.12 Policies and procedures are available to guide the work in the neonatal intensive care unit.

NICU.12.1 There are policies and procedures for medical and nursing initial assessment and re-assessment requirements, including time frames for completion of initial assessments and frequency of re-assessments.

NICU.12.2 There are policies and procedures for monitoring of patient circulation, respiration, and oxygenation.

NICU.12.3 There are evidence-based criteria for intubation, weaning off ventilator and extubating.

NICU.12.4 There are policies and procedures for handover procedure between staff in between shifts and at discharge to a lower acuity of care.

NICU.12.5 There are policies and procedures for infection control practices including isolation.

NICU.12.6 There are policies and procedures for the use of neonatal Total Parenteral Nutrition (TPN) for more sick patients.

NICU.12.7 There are policies and procedures for dealing with ethical issues (e.g., No Code policy, end of life issues, and organ donation).

NICU.12.8 Policies are collaboratively developed by the appropriate staff.
