

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

SOP Title	Thermoregulation in the Delivery Suite		
SOP Number	045 (182 Neo)		
Care Group	Women and Children's		
Version Number	4		
Effective Date	20 th June 2025	Review Date	June 2028
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Location	Maternity Services & Neonatal services		

Document Control				
Version	Date	Author	Status	Comments
1	23.3.17	Wendy Tyler	New	New SOP
2	12.11.19	Wendy Tyler	Approved	<32 weeks gestation use plastic bag Ensure continuous temperature monitoring when trans-warmer mattress in use
3	23.04.20	Wendy Tyler	Live	To include all gestations
4	20.06.25	Gemma Buy	Full Review	Full review, changes made in line with new resuscitaire.

SOP Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide guidance for Midwives, Nurses and Neonatal doctors to promote thermoregulation following birth on the delivery suite. To provide guidance for when a plastic bag is to be used to aid thermoregulation for the preterm infant.
Scope	Initiation of thermoregulation of the infant on the delivery suite and during transfer to Neonatal unit.

>= 34/40 gestation

Dry body and head, place hat
IF WELL – place skin-skin with mother and cover with a warm dry towel/blanket

IF UNWELL or NNU admission required follow guidance for <34 week gestation babies

<34/40 gestation

Pre-delivery: turn on ATOM resuscitaire and ensure heater set to 100% before delivery; place 2 open towels on ATOM flat surface to warm up

Delivery: dry head and apply a hat; apply temperature probe to baby right side of abdomen with heat reflective sticker

>32/40 weeks

Dry body and wrap in fresh warm dry towel

<32/40 weeks

Place body up to the neck into transparent plastic bag/Neohelp ensuring adequate seal & then under radiant heater to create humidity. If baby lying in a pool of fluid or no misting develops remove bag, dry and wrap in fresh warm towel or replace bag/Neohelp.

Target temperature 36.5-37.5°C

Temperature within target range or above?

Switch ATOM resuscitaire to BABY mode. May want to undertake an axilla temperature whilst awaiting BABY mode to pick up.

Temperature below 36.5°C or extreme prematurity < 27/40 weeks?

Turn heater to full, ensure the baby mode is used on the heater with the temperature probe in correct position using appropriate sticker to ensure accurate temperature recording.

Ensure humidity is achieved if neohelp bag is used on preterm baby.

IF THE TRANSWARMER IS TO BE USED THE RADIANT HEATER NEEDS TO BE SWITCHED OFF!

Use of transwarmer AND radiant heater can only be considered at the medical teams discretion AND when continuous temperature monitoring is being observed.

Undertake an axilla temperature before transfer to NNU

Transfer to NNU maintaining thermoregulation

(for babies in plastic bags cover transparent plastic bag with warm dry towels for transfer only, remove towels when placed under overhead heater on NNU to maintain misting; if misting lost transfer into incubator urgently)

Record admission temperature and transfer baby into an incubator as soon as possible