

Identification of Newborn at Birth (Maternity)

Site Applicability

PHC and VCH Maternity units, Operating Rooms, Labour and Delivery Suites

All VCH, PHC, & PHSA sites that use Cerner.

NOTE: Implementation only at Lions Gate Hospital & Squamish General Hospital to support CST Go Live.

Practice Level

RNs, LPNs and Unit Coordinators

Registered Midwives

Need to Know

Identification bands include:

- Mother's first and last name,
 - Mother's Medical Record Number (MRN) or Newborn MRN if discharged and readmitted
 - Date and time of delivery
 - Attending physician/midwife
 - Gender
1. All newborns are identified by the mother's last name as found on the mother's Record of Admission. This applies to all mothers including legally married women who choose to use their maiden name.
 2. Legal guardian(s) of the newborn, most often the birth mother and significant other must have an identical identification band.
 3. Healthy newborns stay in the same room as the mother. Any nurse, lab tech or other person who are responsible for performing procedures can use the mother to confirm identification.
 4. Unique identifiers for newborns in Maternity (if mother is not available) are:
 - a. name (mother's last and first) and
 - b. date of birth
 5. Anytime the newborn is transferred to another area (e.g. OR, Maternity LDRP to NICU), verify newborn identification bands with Newborn Record Part 1 and sign in designated area.
 6. When an infant is readmitted, identification bands are made up according to identifying information on the Record of Admission.
 7. As a security precaution, identification bands are left on the newborn, the mother, and the significant other (when applicable) until after the newborn is discharged from the hospital.

This material has been prepared solely for use at Providence Health Care (PHC), Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) and Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH). PHC, PHSA and VCH accept no responsibility for use of this material by any person or organization not associated with PHC, PHSA and VCH. A printed copy of this document may not reflect the current electronic version.

Equipment and Supplies

1. Set of identification bands - 4 bands with identical numbers, two for newborn, one for each parent/guardian where applicable
2. Crib Card.

Procedure

Steps

STEPS	RATIONALE
1. Fill out identification bands or print out appropriate labels Hand written labels include: mother's name, mother's medical record number (MRN), attending physician/midwife; leave space for sex, date and time of birth	Apply bands for safe identification.
2. Double check identification information with mother or significant other before applying to infant.	Avoids identification errors. This can be done before or after delivery.
3. Ensure that identification information on Newborn Record, Part 1, is complete, including identification band number (Newborn Hospital #)	This information is used to verify newborn identification (mother's name and MRN) whenever the infant is transferred to another unit/area when the mother is not present.
4. Apply identification bands to newborn wrist and ankle, mother's wrist, significant other's wrist as soon as possible after birth.	Identification bands should be applied before the newborn is moved/transferred (away from the mother) unless delayed by clinical condition.

Patient and Family Education

- Inform parents of importance of identification bands and checking procedure on admission and discharge.
- Remind parents of the importance of keeping identification bands on their newborn until they get home.

Related Documents

PHC- [Patient/Resident Identification Policy](#)

References

1. Accreditation Canada Required Organizational Practices Handbook 2016, Version 11. Accreditation Canada. Accessed March 29 2018 at: <https://accreditation.ca/>
2. Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, Hospital National Patient Safety Goals, 2018. Accessed March 29 2018 at : <https://www.jointcommission.org/>

Effective Date:	DRAFT 27-April 2018		
Posted Date:	DRAFT 27-April 2018		
Last Revised:	DD-MMM-YYYY		
Last Reviewed:	DD-MMM-YYYY		
Approved By: <i>(committee or position)</i>	PHC	PHSA	VCH
			To Support Cerner Go Live
Owners: <i>(optional)</i>	PHC	PHSA	VCH
	Professional Practice	Professional Practice	Professional Practice