

Identification of the Newborn at Birth at the St. Paul's Hospital Pregnancy, Birthing and Newborn Centre

Site Applicability

St. Paul's Hospital

Practice Level

RNs and Clinical Support Clerks working on the birthing unit and Operating Rooms

Registered Midwives

Requirements

All newborns must have 2 identification bands applied within the first hour after birth or as soon as possible thereafter, before transfer to another area unit (e.g. NICU, OR) and for readmission to the St Paul's Hospital Pregnancy, Birthing and Newborn Centre (PBNC). Identification bands include:

- Infant sex
- Birthing person's first and last name
- Birthing person's Medical Record Number (MRN) or Newborn MRN if discharged and readmitted
- Date and time of birth
- Attending physician/midwife
- 1 CST Cerner-specific "Newborn Armband Label" tag attached to the identification band that is applied to the newborns ankle.

Need to Know

1. Any infant born at St. Paul's Hospital, is identified by the birthing person's last name as found on the birthing person's Record of Admission. This applies to all birthing persons including legally married individuals who choose to use their maiden name.
2. Legal guardian(s) of the newborn, most often the birthing person and their significant other/ support person, must wear an identical newborn identification band.
3. Healthy newborns stay in the same room as their parent/guardian. Any nurse, lab tech or other person who are responsible for performing procedures can use Parent/guardian to confirm identification.
4. Unique identifiers for newborns in the birthing unit (if parent/ caregiver is not available) are:
 - a. name (birthing person) and
 - b. date of birth
5. Anytime the newborn is transferred to another area (e.g. OR, LDRP to NICU), verify newborn

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identification bands two unique identifiers, such as the infant's MRN or PHN located on the CST Cerner banner bar with the patient's demographics in the Cerner banner bar and match at least 2 unique identifiers. Sign in the designated area in Cerner (Newborn Quick View → Transfer/Transport).

6. When an infant is readmitted, identification bands are made up according to identifying information at the time of admission.
7. As a security precaution, identification bands are left on the newborn, birthing person and the support person (when applicable) until the newborn is discharged from the hospital.
8. The identification band that is applied to the newborns ankle also includes a CST Cerner specific "Newborn Armband Label" tag. This tag contains various newborn identifiers, such as the MRN, PHN, DOB, and the infant's sex. This tag also contains a unique QR code that is scanned for procedures, such as blood draws.

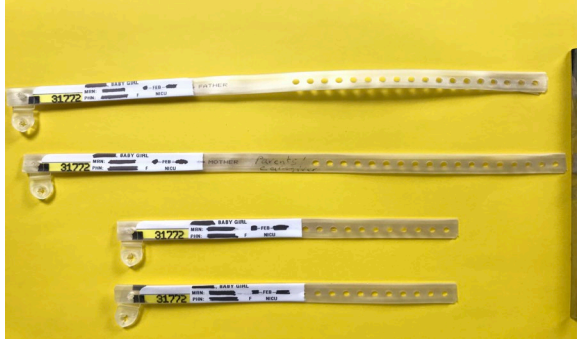
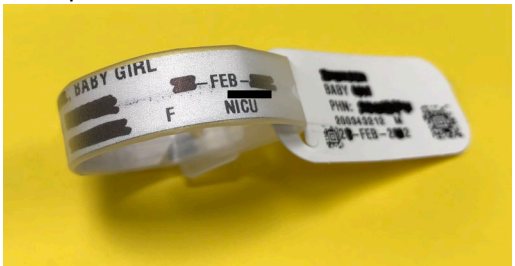
Equipment and Supplies

1. Set of identification bands - 4 bands with identical numbers, two for newborn, one for each parent/guardian where applicable
2. CST Cerner "Newborn Armband Label" with unique QR code

Guideline

Procedure:

| STEPS | RATIONALE |
|--|---|
| 1. Fill out identification bands birthing person's name and birthing person's-medical record number (MRN), attending physician/midwife. Print legibly. Leave space for infant's sex, and the date and time of birth | When possible, make up identification bands before delivery. Unit Coordinator usually fills out birthing person's name and MRN, attending physician, in preparation for delivery. After delivery, RN fills in sex, and the date and time of birth |
| 2. Double check identification information with birthing person or significant other/support person before applying to infant. | Avoids identification errors. This can be done before or after delivery. |
| 3. Ensure that identification information is completed in the Newborn Delivery Data band of CST/Cerner in the birthing person's chart including identification band number (Newborn Hospital #) | This information is used to verify newborn identification (birthing person's name and MRN) whenever the infant is transferred to another unit/area when the parent/caregiver is not present. |

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| <p>4. As soon as possible after birth, complete the newborn identification bands' information – sex, date and time of birth.</p> | <p>Example:</p>  |
| <p>5. Once the Clinical Support Clerk has registered the newborns birth, the CST Cerner "Newborn Armband Label" is printed. Thread the "Newborn Armband Label" tag through the ankle identification band and apply to newborns ankle.</p> | <p>Example:</p>  |
| <p>6. Apply the 3 remaining identification bands to newborn's wrist, birthing person's wrist, and support person's wrist as soon as possible after birth.</p> | <p>Identification bands should be applied before the newborn is moved/transferred (away from the parent/caregiver) unless delayed by clinical condition.</p> |
| <p>7. Fill out crib card with appropriate identification information and attach to bassinette.</p> | <p>Parents/caregivers may take this home with them when the baby is discharged.</p> |
| <p>8. Before discharge, check identification bands of newborn with identification band of parent/caregiver and sign off on CST- Cerner in the infant's chart.</p> | <p>Powerchart → Women's Health Overview → Discharge → Discharge Documentation → Nursing Discharge Checklist.</p> |
| <p>9. Do not remove identification bands when newborn is discharged.</p> | <p>Security Check. Parents may remove bands at home.</p> |

Documentation

- All identifying information should be completed legibly.
 - As soon as possible after delivery the nurse should document ID band number in CST Cerner in the birthing person's chart → Powerchart → Interactive View and I&O → Newborn Delivery Data → Initial Newborn Information → ID band number & ID band verified by
 - Every shift the nurse should check the infant's ID bands and compare it to the parent/guardian's band. This should be documented in CST Cerner Powerchart in the infant's chart → Interactive

View and I & O → Newborn Quick View → Shift Report/Handoff

2. BC Labour and Birth Summary Record – Newborn Hospital # (identification band #)
3. Crib Card – fill out completely

Patient and Family Education

Inform parents/ caregivers of importance of identification bands and checking procedure on admission and discharge.

Remind parents/caregivers of the importance of keeping identification bands on their newborn until they get home.

Related Documents

1. [B-00-12-10045](#) – NICU: Newborn Identification
2. [B-00-11-10192](#) - Corporate Policy: Patient/Resident Identification

References

1. Accreditation Canada Qmentum Standards (2018). Inpatient Services. Accreditation Canada.

Persons/Groups Consulted

Clinical Nurse Leader/Nurse Educator, St. Paul's Hospital PBNC

Nurse Educator, St. Paul's Hospital NICU

Maternity Safety and Quality Committee (MSQC)

Developed by

Nurse Educator, St Paul's Hospital PBNC

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