

# Newborn Nursery Curriculum

Department of Child Health  
University of Missouri

## Medical Knowledge

**GOALS:** While interns are expected to demonstrate acquisition of knowledge of neonatal topics, Senior Residents are expected to demonstrate mastery of the neonatal knowledgebase. All residents are expected to apply an open minded, analytical approach to acquiring knowledge and to critically evaluate current medical information and scientific evidence so they may utilize this knowledge in clinical situations.

### Objectives:

\*Interns will participate in medical team rounds while Senior Residents will provide leadership and develop treatment plans during rounds.

\*Interns will show a growing knowledge and ability to deliver accurate and appropriate anticipatory guidance [feeding instructions, cord and circumcision care, bathing, thermoregulation, signs and symptoms of acute illness, hyperbilirubinemia precautions, normal voiding and stooling patterns, infant safety (including safe sleep practices, use of rear-facing infant carseats, prevention of shaken baby syndrome)], while Senior Residents will demonstrate proficiency in these areas and educate other team members.

\*All residents will use an evidence-based approach to support care decisions

\*Interns will gain knowledge in the judicious use of lab and radiographic studies, while Senior Residents will demonstrate consistent judicious decisions in their use.

## Patient Care

**GOALS:** Interns and Residents are expected to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for promotion of health and prevention of illness.

**Objectives:**

**Interns**

**Senior Residents**

**Newborn Resuscitation**

- \*Learn appropriate preparation and equipment required for adequate resuscitation.
- \* Become familiar with tests of fetal well-being (FHT, nonstress testing, BPP).
- \* Understand and demonstrate appropriate steps in newborn resuscitation per NRP guidelines
- \*Understand indications for PPV, vascular access and volume resuscitation, chest compressions, resuscitation drugs, and meconium deliveries

- \*Independently and appropriately prepare equipment for adequate resuscitation
- \*Understand the significance of tests with fetal well-being.
- \*Lead a team of interns and students in the appropriate resuscitation of newborns.
- \*Be comfortable with providing PPV, vascular access, volume resuscitation, chest compressions, resuscitation drugs and management of meconium stained deliveries

**Routine Newborn Care**

- \*Understand the rationale for neonatal ophthalmia prophylaxis, Vitamin K administration, Hepatitis B vaccination
- \*Understand the rationale for early Hematocrit determination and Glucose level
- \*Learn importance of Newborn Screening
  
- \*Learn the components of a complete normal newborn exam
  
- \*Learn the procedure for newborn circumcision

- \*Understand the rationale for neonatal ophthalmia prophylaxis, Vitamin K administration, Hepatitis B vaccination
- \*Appropriately Respond to abnormal early Hematocrit determination and Glucose level
- \*Appropriately respond to abnormal newborn screens
- \*Demonstrate proficiency in newborn examination and identify abnormal exam findings, acting appropriately to those findings.
- \*Teach interns the procedure for circumcisions and demonstrate proficiency in circumcision

**Care of the Higher Risk Infant**

- \*Learn the importance of maternal prenatal testing (HBsAg, HIV, RPR, GBBS, GC and Chlamydia)
- \*Learn management of infants born to mothers who are HSV+, Varicella+, TB+
  
- \*Learn management of neonatal hyperbilirubinemia

- \*Actively decide treatment plans for patients of affected mothers
  
- \*Actively determine and implement testing of infants born to mothers who are HSV+, Varicella+, TB+
- \*Appropriately treat affected infants
- \*Implement appropriate treatment for neonatal hyperbilirubinemia

## **Practice-Based Learning and Improvement**

**GOAL S.** As interns and residents collect and appraise clinical information to make patient management decisions, they are expected to evaluate and improve patient care practices.

### OBJECTIVES:

\*All residents should recognize personal limitations in knowledge, skills, and experience, and should strive to improve in these areas by searching for information asking for help or clarification, etc.

\*Interns will gain skill in critical review of relevant literature while Senior Residents should show evidence of reading and critical appraisal of published literature and should work with other learners to enhance the understanding of current and changing practices in newborn care.

\*Interns will request and incorporate feedback about their performance while Senior Residents will consistently reflect on performance and experiences providing, requesting, and accepting feedback where indicated.

\*All residents will learn from errors.

## **Interpersonal and Communication Skills**

**GOAL S:** All residents must communicate effectively with the health care teams in labor and delivery and in the postpartum area, with parents of newborns, and with referring and follow-up physicians.

### OBJECTIVES:

\*Interns will gain skill in verbal communication skills with faculty, nursing staff, social workers, and other team members as evidenced in presenting cases, discussing management/discharges, and in facilitating patient care; Seniors will demonstrate competency in the same tasks.

\*Interns will gain skill in verbal communication skills in discussions of newborn care and anticipatory guidance with patient families in terms that parents from a variety of backgrounds might be able to understand; Seniors will show competency in the same areas

\*Medical records must be accurate and up-to-date.

## **Systems-Based Practice**

<p><b>GOALS.</b> All residents are expected to help provide quality health care that is cost effective and to advocate for newborns and their families within the healthcare system.</p>
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### OBJECTIVES:

\*Interns will gain skill in collaborating with Social Work and case managers, while Seniors will consistently collaborate with social work and case managers in all appropriate situations.

\*All residents should advocate for patients and families by assisting them in finding an appropriate healthcare provider for their newborn when one has not been selected and by arranging follow up appointments in an appropriate manner.

\*Interns will learn availability of in-house and community resources while Seniors will make appropriate referrals to those resources (such as First-Steps, PT/OT, WIC, etc.)

\*All residents should consider how different models of health care delivery impact access to and delivery of health care to patients and families of newborns.

\*All residents will aid in providing easy and understandable followup for newborn issues, and when multiple appointments are needed coordinating them for family convenience.

\*Identify medical errors and near-misses in our practice and discuss ways of preventing errors.

\* Become familiar with processes used within our institutions to improve patient care. (ie. Patient Safety Net, QA meetings, etc.)

## **Professionalism**

**GOALS.** All residents are expected to carry out clinical responsibilities in a professional manner, adhere to ethical principles, and demonstrate sensitivity to a diverse population of patients/families.

### OBJECTIVES:

- \*Always act in the best interest of the patient
  
- \*Patient and family confidentiality must be maintained.
  
- \*Acknowledge and report errors
  
- \*Be punctual, reliable and accountable
  
- \*All residents should act in a caring and respectful manner toward patients/families from wide variety of backgrounds.

## **REFERENCES:**

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