

3 Month Old Babies – Full Neonatal Clinical Guideline – Joint Derby & Burton

Reference no.: NIC MIS 06/ Aug 22/v004

Purpose

To ensure a structured approach to organising care for 3 months old babies in Neonatal Intensive Care.

Aim & Scope

For all staff to ensure these babies are identified and family/carers are supported appropriately.

Rationale

1. To provide a medical update of the babies condition and progress.
2. To enable parents/carer's to share anxieties and future explanations.
3. To discuss the role of the Neonatal outreach team and how future goals may be achieved.
4. Explore difficulties parents/ carers may have which affect their ability to visit and support their baby in hospital.
5. Explore difficulties parents/ carers have which may affect the baby's discharge home.
6. Discuss plans for future discharge.

Indication

Section 85 of Children's Act 1989 – Places a duty on local authorities to check on the safety and welfare of children living in hospital provision for any continuous period exceeding and/or likely to exceed 12 weeks. After 3 months of hospitalization, children become 'Child in need', and there is a legal obligation to inform social service.

Guideline

At 3 months of age a meeting will be held with all members of the multi- disciplinary team which should include the following:

Parents/ Care providers
 Neonatal Outreach Team
 Named Consultant Neonatologist
 Neonatal Nurse
 Physiotherapist
 Speech and Language Therapist
 Dietician
 Play team
 Social worker/ Family Visitor (if applicable)
 Children's Community Nurse
 Health Visitor
 Any other professional involved in the patient's care for example Named Safeguarding Nurse
 Members of the Primary Health Care Team

Referral process;

A social care notification under Section 85 of the Children's act must be sent to the appropriate **Children's Social Care Referral team** (e.g Derby City, Derbyshire and

Staffordshire) The documents are available on FLO→ Safeguarding→ Safeguarding Children -> How to complete a Child Social Care Referral.

When completing the relevant documentation please document in the reason for referral box, 'Referral made under Section 85 of the Children's Act – notification to the Local Authority of a child who has been in hospital for a period of 3 months. Parents and carer's should be informed of the notification and requirement for the meeting by NICU staff. The safeguarding team should be informed of the referral and meeting date via email. This should be sent to uhdb.safeguarding@nhs.net

References

The Children's Act of 2004 Department of Health available at:

(<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/41/section/85/2009-08-22>)

HMSO – Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their families. 2000. Department of Health, London

Documentation Controls

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Development of Guideline: Dr Gitika Joshi (Neonatal Consultant), Gemma Manning (NICU Outreach Sister)				
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