



Entering The NICU

All persons entering the NICU must perform a one-minute scrub and apply alcohol foam to hands and arms.

Please limit the use of colognes and perfume since your baby and others around your baby may be sensitive to the scent. All jewelry must be removed and placed in your pocket or purse. We are not responsible for lost or stolen jewelry.

Please do not visit if you are not feeling well. Viruses or bacteria that cause colds or upset stomachs may be transmitted to the babies.

Persons exposed to infectious diseases or who have recently been vaccinated with a live virus vaccine, such as polio or smallpox, are not allowed to visit.

To reduce infection, no food or drinks of any type are allowed in the NICU. Since cell phones can have viruses and germs on the outside, please refrain from cell phone use while spending time with your baby.

Please remain at your baby's bedside during your visit. Visitors are not allowed to visit other babies in the NICU.

Technical Equipment

The NICU makes extensive use of modern technology. There may be several machines attached to your baby with lights, displays and sounds. These machines are here to directly support your child (breathing, heart rate, fluids, etc.) or to help monitor the care your baby is receiving.

Please feel free to ask questions about the equipment you see. We are here to help you understand the care your child is receiving.



CAPE FEAR VALLEY HEALTH

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NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT



CAPE *able*
of TREATING BABIES WHO
NEED A LITTLE EXTRA CARE



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the **NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT**
at **CAPE FEAR VALLEY HEALTH**

Family and Friends Bedside Time

The visitation policy in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) differs from other areas of the hospital to protect the babies from the risk of infection.

Premature babies are at higher risk for infection due to their size and inability to fight off infection.

Bedside time is reserved for parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, significant others and siblings.

Bedside time is allowed throughout the day except during physician rounds:

6:30 – 9:30 a.m.

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Visitation may open after rounds are complete. Exceptions are made with a physician or neonatal nurse practitioner (NNP) order and by the NICU Charge Nurse.

For the safety and security of your babies, we require visitors, ages 16 and older, to produce identification. If visitors do not have ID, they will not be allowed in the unit. This includes parents unless they have the NICU ID bracelet.

Only two people may visit at one time (This includes the parent). Other visitors may wait in the family waiting room. Grandparents, great-grandparents and clergy may visit without being accompanied by the parents. Clergy must have permission from parents to visit, and must have identification stating they are clergy.

In the absence of the father and grandparents, the mother may list her “Favorite 3” at the time of admission.

If the mother and father are physically unable to visit, the support person may visit without the parent.

Visitors may visit, one at a time, during visiting hours, and must be accompanied by the parent.

You may wait in the family waiting room, hospital lobby or the cafeteria during the times the unit is closed. Please do not wait at the secretary’s station.

Occasionally, you may be asked to leave the unit temporarily or wait before entering if there is an emergency, admission or other special procedure. Please be understanding and cooperative if this is asked of you.

Sibling Bedside Time

In order to visit in the NICU, siblings (of the baby in NICU only) must be at least **5 years old**. They must be accompanied by the parent at all times.

The sibling must not have a fever and must not have been exposed to any infectious disease within the past two weeks. Siblings may visit anytime.

Children under age 12 may not be left unsupervised in the waiting room. Failure to supervise children will result in both the parents and siblings being asked to leave the NICU and waiting room.

Calling the NICU

We realize this is a very stressful time for you and your family. Your well-being is as important to us as your baby’s.

We encourage you to ask questions at any time about your baby’s care or condition.

The staff of the NICU hopes that you feel comfortable in communicating any concerns or questions you may have.

Please remember that the staff is only allowed to answer questions related to your baby.

Patient Confidentiality

To protect your baby’s confidentiality while in the NICU, information is given to parents only.

Please inform other family members and friends of this policy and ask them not to call or ask for information regarding your baby’s condition.

To ensure confidentiality, each parent is given a code for his or her baby. When calling the unit, parents will be asked for the code. Please do not give this code to anyone.

Your baby’s code is: _____

You can call the NICU 24 hours a day to check on your baby’s condition. The telephone number for the NICU is (910) 615-5490 or toll free 1-800-682-3822.