

Newborn Care Centre: Skills Checklist and Handover Presentation Guide

March 2023

Skills Checklist

The below Checklist is available for you to work through with your baby’s bedside nurse. The nurse will be able to teach you all the things you need to know to provide great bedside care for your baby. This Checklist is NOT an assessment or an evaluation of your parenting. It is intended to act as a helpful guide to assist you in growing your confidence in caring for your baby whilst in The Royal’s Newborn Care Centre.

Skills	Tick
Change baby’s nappy, provide skin and mouth care and know when to notify nurse to provide eye care [cleaning eyes]	
Take baby’s temperature and have an understanding of what is normal vs. what should be discussed with nurse	
Safely bath baby with attention to water temperature and positioning	
Weigh baby independently	
Transfer baby safely in and out of humidicrib and cot	
Use developmental care techniques to position baby correctly and make his/her bed whilst abiding by SIDS guidelines	
Label, store and transport expressed breast milk (EBM) correctly	
Draw up feeds and label correctly	
Check feed with nurse and correctly warm in milk warmer	
Latch baby on to breast and assess breath/suck/swallow. Provide breastfeeding score from modified LATCH assessment, or if bottle feeding, how to pace feed and monitor for signs of stress	
Understand the difference between apnoea, bradycardia and desaturation and when to call for urgent assistance	
Comfortable participating in medical rounds and takes an active role in planning the baby’s care	
Understand the importance of cleaning equipment before and after use	
Administer medication via nasogastric tube (NGT) and/or orally	
Change baby’s clothing without causing distress	

Handover Presentation Guide

This Handover Presentation Guide is to help you in presenting your baby at daily Ward Rounds, should you feel comfortable in doing so. The below are some suggestions for background and current information about your baby that you may wish to share with the medical and nursing staff during Rounds. You are welcome to share different information in a different style should you prefer, and you do not have to speak during Ward Rounds if you do not want to.

My baby, [name], is a boy/girl, now aged X days old

[Name] was born at X weeks gestation by [type of delivery] on [birth date]

[Name]'s birth weight was X grams and he/she now weighs X grams

Pregnancy complications were:

- A.
- B.
- C.

Since birth, [name]'s past challenges/focus areas of care have been:

- A.
- B.
- C.

Currently, [name]'s focus areas of care are:

- A.
- B.
- C.

Today [name] seems:

Well/Unwell

Comfortable/Uncomfortable/In pain

Breathing:

[Name] appears to be stable/unstable on current breathing support

Feeds:

[Name] is currently being fed by Nasogastric Tube/Breast/Bottle

[Name] appears to be tolerating/not tolerating feeds

My concerns / questions for today are:

- A.
- B.
- C.

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Should you wish to discuss any aspect of this information please send an email to portal@royalwomen.org.au