

Section: Division of Nursing

* **PROCEDURE** *

Index: 6160.004a
Page: 1 of 2
Issue Date: April 23, 1990
Revised Date: January 2010

Approval: _____

HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Originator: A. Malloy, RN
Revised by: C. Burns, RNC, BSN
P. Swanson, RN, MSN

MATERNAL SERVICES
(Scope)

TITLE: DISCHARGING MOTHER AND BABY

PURPOSE: To outline procedure for discharging couplets from the CFC in preparation for functioning as a family unit in the home environment.

SUPPORTIVE DATA: Patient will demonstrate understanding of all instructions received while a patient and be informed that she will receive a follow-up telephone call within a month to update her condition. Healthcare provider must write order for discharge.

- EQUIPMENT:**
1. Mother:
 - a. Complimentary diaper bag
 - b. Patient's belongings and flowers
 - c. Hospital gift blanket
 2. Baby
 - a. Newborn identification sheet
 - b. Crib ID card
 - c. Diapers
 - d. Pen, scissors and scotch tape

- CONTENT:**
- PROCEDURE STEPS:**
1. Confirm discharge of both mother and baby and note provider's orders.
 2. Check to be sure PKU screening, picture, hearing screening, and birth certificate have been completed for baby.
 3. Have mother sign discharge instructions for self and baby.
 4. Give mother discharge gift and diaper bag.
 5. Give mother any last-minute instructions for care of self and baby at home. Be sure teaching plan is completed.
 6. Make sure that mother has all her belongings and those of the baby.
 7. Remove one of the identification bracelets from newborn (using scissors) and tape it on Hollister "Newborn Identification Record". Have mother verify number and sign

KEY POINTS:

Discharge order must be written by providers on both mother's and baby's chart.

Mother is to keep her bracelet and baby's second bracelet on until after discharge from hospital.

8. Just before leaving the hospital, remove infant security band and discharge from HUGS system. Remove mother's KISSES band at same time. See security system for neonates procedure.
9. Mothers are usually discharged ambulatory with nurse carrying the baby. Mother may request a wheel chair. Baby then can be placed in her arms as she is wheeled out.
10. Baby is to be placed in car seat per state law. Parents are to place infant in car seats and make all necessary adjustments. In back seat facing the rear.
11. Complete chart:
 - a. Discharge summary on nursing notes in Cerner Power chart for both mother and baby.
 - b. Discharge mother and baby in Cerner computer system & QS.