

Section: Division of Nursing

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\* PROCEDURE \*  
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Index: 6170.015a/7010.080a

Approval: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Issue Date: April 23, 1990  
Revised Date: January 2010

HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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**NEWBORN SERVICES/ED**  
(Scope)

**TITLE: ADMINISTERING O<sub>2</sub> TO THE NEWBORN AS AN EMERGENCY MEASURE**

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PURPOSE: To outline steps to administer oxygen needed by a newborn in an emergency situation.

SUPPORTIVE DATA: Oxygen administration is never considered an innocuous procedure, and its use must be regulated. O<sub>2</sub> in concentrations higher than room air can be toxic to the newborn. Prolonged hypoxia can damage brain and other body tissues. O<sub>2</sub> can be beneficial and essential as an emergency measure. All oxygen and rate of flow must be ordered by a physician except in emergency situations.

EQUIPMENT: 1. Ohio infant care unit with disposable hood  
2. Oxygen analyzer  
3. Oximeter  
4. RDS score sheet  
5. Neonatal ambu bag

<p>CONTENT:</p> <p>PROCEDURE STEPS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Put infant on infant care unit (Ohio warmer) with disposable hood and servo heat probe. Set Ohio to servo mode and set temp at 37 degrees.</li> <li>2. Use oxygen analyzer to measure O<sub>2</sub> concentration. Place near newborn's face.</li> <li>3. Start at 30% O<sub>2</sub>, then increase if necessary.</li> <li>4. Place oximeter on baby.</li> <li>5. Notify pediatrician as soon as possible.</li> <li>6. Set up O<sub>2</sub> with heated mist as soon as possible.</li> <li>7. Any change in O<sub>2</sub> concentration must be covered by a specific doctor's order.</li> <li>8. Record amount of oxygen given in nurses notes in computer Cerner charting and/or RDS sheet at least hourly.</li> </ol>	<p>KEY POINTS:</p> <p>Note: O<sub>2</sub> can be given to a newborn as blow by without heat and humidity only as an emergency measure until O<sub>2</sub> with heated mist can be set up.</p> <p>See Oxygen Analyzer Procedure. (6170.014a)</p> <p>Use lowest concentration of O<sub>2</sub> that is effective.</p> <p>O<sub>2</sub> sats should be 90% or higher.</p> <p>Give doctor all pertinent information about mother's history, labor, delivery, medication, anesthesia, size of baby, vital signs and gestational age, and respiratory status.</p> <p>See O<sub>2</sub> Blender Procedure #6170.005a.</p>
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