

Section: Division of Nursing
Approval: _____

* **PROCEDURE** *

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HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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NEWBORN SERVICES
(Scope)

TITLE: ADOPTION PROCEDURE

PURPOSE: To outline procedure to facilitate the adoption process and support the birth mother in her wishes. To define the collaborative relationship between Childbirth Family Center and Social Services.

CONTENT:

PROCEDURE STEPS:

KEY POINTS:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Mother may choose to be moved off the maternity unit after delivery.2. Notify hospital Social Services of possible adoption.3. Obtain official name of adoption agency and phone number of contact person.4. Obtain name of the social workers, from the agency, who will be handling the case, and find out when the social worker will come for the baby. Encourage mother to notify the agency of baby's birth.5. The OB nurse will assist as needed in completion of paper work: birth certificate, circumcision consent, etc. Document visits with mom daily.6. Agency will have a release form from the adoption agency or welfare organization authorizing the hospital to release the baby to the assigned social worker.7. Have the attending physician fill out a history and physical form for mother and baby. | <p>Be supportive of mother. Strongly encourage mom to remain on OB unit
Social Services will act as liaison</p> <p>Nurse or social worker may do this step.</p> <p>Natural mother retains all rights and responsibilities to baby contact desired and referral to any agency she desires</p> <p>Birth mother completes birth certificate, Social Security forms, and New Born Hearing Screen forms.</p> <p>This special form from the agency is placed on baby's chart to be part of the permanent record</p> <p>These forms are provided by the adoption agency</p> |
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8. Take two sets of newborn pictures:
 - a. One set for mother. Birth mom can order pictures if she chooses
 - b. One set for agency for adoptive parents. Form given without name to agency for adoptive parents to order photos directly from company
9. OB staff member discharges the baby to the agency representative who must show official identification to RN on duty. Staff member checks baby's ID band with mother's ID band and has mother sign footprint sheet before her discharge
10. The baby is dressed by nurse or mom if she so desires. Clothes for baby are furnished by agency or by the birth mother, if she wishes.
11. Give instructions, gift packets, and baby's toiletries to social worker.
12. RN on duty carries baby out of hospital and puts baby in car seat in agency's car. Agency to provide car seat that fulfills legal requirements.
13. If this is a private adoption, birth mother must carry infant out of hospital. While in hospital birth mother may designate care to adoptive parents if she so desires
14. Write discharge summary on mother's and baby's charts. Make certain any Social Service reports for mother get copied and added to baby's chart