

Section: Division of Nursing  
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**PROCEDURE**  
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Issue Date: September 12, 1994  
Revised Date: Jan. 2008  
Reviewed Date: Jan 2010

HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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**NEWBORN SERVICES**  
(Scope)

**TITLE: COURTESY CRIB FOR DISCHARGED INFANT WHEN MOM REMAINS A PATIENT**

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**PURPOSE:** To outline procedure for providing continuing care for infant while mother remains in hospital and baby is discharged

**SUPPORTIVE DATA:** Physician will have discharged baby.

<b>CONTENT:</b>	<b>PROCEDURE STEPS:</b>	<b>KEY POINTS:</b>
	1. Nurse will explain to mother the procedure of the courtesy crib, stressing that parents or their designee are responsible for total care and safety of infant.	Nurse shall chart in discharge note that mother understands that she is responsible for care and safety of infant.
	2. Baby will be discharged following usual procedure.	Baby will be considered legally discharged once all discharge papers are signed.
	3. The baby's parents or their designee are ultimately responsible for care of infant while it has courtesy crib.	
	4. If mother is unable to care adequately for baby, either baby must be removed from hospital, or parents must designate responsible person to care for baby.	Parents have sole responsibility for designating who they consider to be responsible.
	5. Baby's care is not the responsibility of hospital staff or auxiliary.	As baby is no longer an in-patient, he/she may not be returned to Nursery or left with staff to "baby sit" even for short periods.
	6. Post Partum unit will keep on mother's chart the name and phone number of responsible person who can come to hospital within 30 minutes to assume care of baby in an emergency.	
	7. Baby can come in and out of hospital but parents must notify hospital so crib remains available.	
	8. Hospital will provide one crib for baby's use and will provide reasonable amount of linen, diapers, and baby care items for baby.	
	9. Hospital will provide reasonable amounts of formula for baby providing baby is using formula routinely stocked in Nursery. Formula provided as usual for infants; in sterile containers with sterile nipple units.	
	10. Baby must have attached to wrist and/or ankle an identification band. If no original band on baby, a regular hospital band may be used with at least baby's name, sex, and birth date on it. Also a security tag must remain on baby if it remains on unit.	Inform parents that identification band and security band must remain on baby.