

MOTHER BABY SAFETY PLAN

Your baby's safety and security is a priority at St. Tammany Health System. Here are some things you can do to help us keep you and your baby safe.

SAFETY TO PREVENT INFANT FALLS AND SUFFOCATION:

- Sleeping with your baby in your bed or chair puts your baby at risk for suffocation and falling. Please be aware that some babies have been dropped in the past when a caregiver has fallen asleep.
- Use a feeding support pillow (e.g., Boppy) while breastfeeding or other forms of feeding to help prevent newborn falls.
- Call for hospital staff or support person to assist you if you are unable or too tired to get up safely and put your baby in the crib.
- Place your baby safely on their back in their crib if you feel sleepy while holding or feeding your baby.
- ALWAYS make sure that anyone holding your baby is awake and alert.
- During night feedings have an adult "Stay With ME" to help keep you alert.
- If your baby falls or is dropped, call your nurse immediately.
- ALWAYS put your baby on his/her back to sleep in their crib.
- St. Tammany Health System is one of Louisiana's champion hospitals for safe sleep. We practice and model safe sleep with all our infants to reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). To minimize the risk of SIDS, we strongly encourage all babies be placed on their backs to sleep in their own crib with the head of the bed flat (unless you have been instructed otherwise by your pediatrician), free of loose blankets, stuffed animals and crib bumpers.

Parent Signature _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

RN Signature _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

SECURITY

- Become familiar with the hospital personnel who work in New Family Center and Mother-Baby and their routine. Nursing shifts change at 7am and 7pm. At those times, the oncoming nurse caring for your baby will come in and introduce themselves. Our staff and your baby's doctor are the only people who have a reason to take your baby anywhere. Housekeeping, lab, environmental services, dietary, volunteers etc., may enter your room for a consultation, deliver flowers, clean the room, etc. If you are unsure about any of these people, even if they are wearing a hospital uniform or have an apparent reason for being there, press your "call" light and a nurse will assist you immediately.
- Check for proper identification before giving your baby to anyone. All New Family Center and Mother-Baby staff members wear a picture ID badge with the hospital logo. Employees authorized to handle babies have a special version of the hospital badge with a pink banner. Do not give your baby to anyone without this specialized badge.
- Check your baby's bracelet number with yours. After your baby is born, matching numbered bracelets are put on your wrist and your baby's wrist and ankle. Be sure that if your baby must leave your room that staff match your band with your baby's bands upon return. A second bracelet is given to an adult of your choice which will allow them the privileges you have as a parent.
- If you walk in the hallway with your baby, the baby must be in the open crib.
- Place your baby's crib on the side of the bed opposite the door.
- Notify staff of any family problems that could threaten the safety and security of your infant.

Parent Signature _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

RN Signature _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____



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