

PROCEDURE FOR: Four-hour Obstetrical Hold

PURPOSE: To outline the admission process and the nursing responsibilities for obstetrical hold patients.

- POLICY:
1. A "Four Hour Hold" is a short term admission process to determine fetal/maternal well-being.
 2. An NST completed during four-hour hold, the NST must be reviewed and signed by a physician other than a first year resident prior to patient discharge.
 3. The Antepartum Testing Nurse may discharge a patient when the NST meets criteria and is within physician parameters.

DESIRED
PATIENT

- OUTCOME:
1. Patient will be discharged to home within the four hour hold period.
 2. Patient will be evaluated and admitted if necessary.

PROCEDURE:

<u>ACTIONS</u>	<u>POINTS OF EMPHASIS</u>
1. Assess patient's understanding of evaluation/testing. Explain that admission or 2-3 hour observation min L&D may be necessary.	
2. Assess antenatal status on admission.	2. Obtain OB history from prenatal chart.
3. Notify house officer of patient's arrival.	
4. Place patient on monitor.	
5. Obtain lab specimens as ordered.	
6. Assist MD with speculum and vaginal exams.	
7. Notify physician when tests completed and/or laboratory results are received for evaluation.	
8. Review discharge instructions with patient if appropriate.	
9. Assist patient with admission to unit if necessary.	

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ACTIONS

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

DOCUMENTATION:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Obtain TOO number and a Four Hour Hold number.
2. Pull paperwork specified for four hour hold.
3. Document patient four hour hold admission on:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- admission book- midnight census book'- classification sheet- charge sheet
4. Complete four hour hold record, record cervical checks, contractions, FHR information, vital signs on four hour hold flowsheet.
5. Sign off on order sheet as needed.
6. Wrap and label monitor tracing as appropriate. | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Notify HUC of admission<ul style="list-style-type: none">- if patient has been seen previously, they will have a TOO number- if patient is new to system a TOO number and a four hour hold number are needed* if no HUC available, contact emergency admitting department to secure above numbers
2. All appropriate paperwork is to be labeled. Card can be obtained if necessary. The admission number must be handwritten on document. |
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APPROVAL: Nursing Standards Committee
OB-GYN/L&D Standards Committee

EFFECTIVE DATE: 5/79

REVISION DATES: 1/94, 3/97, 3/00