

NICU/NBN/L&D/OB-GYN - Unit Practice Manual  
John Dempsey Hospital - Department of Nursing  
The University of Connecticut Health Center

**PROCEDURE FOR: Identification and Security of Newborns**

- POLICY:**
1. All newborns must be properly identified immediately following delivery. For NICU patients, identification procedures are to be completed before the infant leaves the resuscitation room.
  2. The security system sensor will be applied to healthy newborns at the same time as the identification bracelets.
  3. Staff must verify that security sensors are turned "ON" when they are applied.
  4. An identification bracelet must be worn by infants at all times. If delivery room bracelets are removed due to the need for IV placement or due to skin integrity issues, then an alternative band (such as the Posey identification bracelets) must be applied.
  5. Barcoded, hospital-generated admission bracelets are to be available for the purpose of scanning barcodes by the glucose meter only.

**EQUIPMENT:** Matching name bands - 4 (Hollister)  
 Ink pad  
 Newborn Identification Record  
 Security System Sensor  
 Newborn identification bracelet (e.g., Posey)

**DOCUMENTATION:** Newborn Identification Record (Hollister)

**PROCEDURE:**

**ACTION**

**POINTS OF EMPHASIS**

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|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The L&amp;D nurse will check all name bands for matching identification numbers.</li> <li>2. The L&amp;D nurse will complete the newborn identification bands and initiate the newborn identification record.</li> <li>3. The L&amp;D nurse present at delivery must apply the ID bands, one on two different limbs of the infant, one on the mother, one on the father and sign in appropriate place on the identification sheet.</li> <li>4. A security sensor (that has been turned on) will be applied to healthy newborns with one of the identification bands.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. If the infant is being resuscitated by the neonatal team, ID band placement and footprints will be done after resuscitative measures have been completed. The NICU RN will contact the L&amp;D RN when it is appropriate to footprint and band the infant.           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. ID bands should be applied to achieve a snug fit around the extremity. They will loosen with normal fluid and weight loss.</li> <li>b. Identification procedures are to be completed before the infant leaves the resuscitation room.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. The security sensor should be tested prior to use to ensure that it is operational.</li> </ol> |
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5. L&D nurse will obtain the maternal fingerprint (right index finger) and infant's footprints and apply to the newborn identification record.
6. The L&D nurse and Nursery nurse together will verify identification band information, including last name, gender, time and date of birth and bracelet number. The Nursery signs the newborn identification record.
7. The admitting Nursery nurse must verify that the security sensor has been applied and is turned on.
- a. NICU patients will have security sensors placed once they are able to go to the family rooms. Refer to protocol for Safety and Security of Newborns.
5. The footprints of premature infants may be done by the NICU RN.
6. The admitting NICU nurse matches the identification bracelets to the newborn identification record and signs the record.
  - a. The NICU/NBN RN is responsible for ensuring that all elements of the Newborn Identification Record are complete before it is filed in the chart.
7. Security sensor will be applied in the nursery if this was not done in the delivery area.

**APPROVAL:** Nursing Standards Committee

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 2/80

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