Identification of the newborn guideline (GL859)

Approval

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approval Group</th>
<th>Job Title, Chair of Committee</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maternity &amp; Children’s Services Clinical Governance Committee</td>
<td>Chair, Maternity Clinical Governance Committee</td>
<td>7th April 2017</td>
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Change History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Author, job title</th>
<th>Reason</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>Nov 2011</td>
<td>J Tuckey, Del Suite Manager</td>
<td>Reviewed</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>October 2012</td>
<td>J Tuckey, Del Suite Manager</td>
<td>Appendices 1 &amp; 2 added</td>
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<td>6.2</td>
<td>October 2014</td>
<td>J Tuckey, Del Suite Manager</td>
<td>Reviewed – no changes</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>April 2016</td>
<td>J Tuckey, Del Suite Manager</td>
<td>Live change made to pg 2 to check genitalia of baby as well as identity labels when transferred between wards.</td>
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<td>6.4</td>
<td>Mar 2017</td>
<td>R French (Acting Del Suite Manager)</td>
<td>Reviewed – no changes</td>
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- This policy should be read in conjunction with the Trust policy on patient identity CG036
Maternity Guidelines – Identification of the Newborn (GL859)

All newborn infants should have 2 handwritten identity bands applied to each ankle immediately after birth pending the generation of the baby’s NHS number and electronic printed identity band. No infant should be removed from the room it was born in without being labelled. Once the electronic identity bands are available they should replace the hand written identity band. It is essential that all babies delivered in theatre have hand written labels prior to transfer to delivery suite, recovery or Buscot in order to meet WHO regulations.

- All newborn infants must have 2 printed identity bands applied to ensure accurate (positive) identity / patient safety and therefore minimise related clinical incidents and patient harm. If an identity band is produced by a non-registered professional i.e. Maternity Care Assistant it must be counter checked with a registered professional.

- Two printed labels should be completed with:
  1. Mothers last name, baby Boy/Girl (not male or female)
  2. Date of Birth
  3. Time of birth
  4. Baby NHS number (the mother’s local hospital number i.e. the M number maybe used temporarily until the baby’s NHS number is available)
  5. In the case of multiple births babies should be labelled consecutively according to birth order Twin I/II or Triplet I/II/III if applicable

- For any baby whose clinical condition e.g. because of size or medical condition means they are unable to wear the identity bands, a risk assessment must be undertaken, documented in the health care record and where appropriate the identity bands should be checked and securely taped to the incubator before transfer. The baby must have identity bands applied as soon as their size and/or medical condition permit.

- All identify band must be checked with the mother and her birth partner (or member of staff where necessary) prior to securing identity bands, one on each of baby’s ankles. The identity bands may also be checked with the printed birth register from CMIS and the mother’s notes.

- Baby identification labels should be checked on a daily basis while in hospital and documented that this has been carried out

- A missing or insecure label should be immediately replace and checked with the mother

- Babies being transferred between wards should have their identification labels and genitalia checked on transfer either with the mother or with two members of staff.

- In the event of a baby being found with both identity bands missing,
The co-ordinator on Bleep 179 should be informed. A check should be made within one hour of all baby labels in the unit to ensure they correspond with the baby notes, a record must be made in the notes (e.g. both labels checked and correct, dated etc.) and the incident must be reported on the electronic incident reporting system. The Director of Midwifery / Matron of the ward area must be informed by the bleep holder of the incident. When identity of “baby with missing identity bands” is confirmed, identity bands must be checked and replaced as per procedure.

- In the case of a child refusing to wear an identity band or a child whose exceptional clinical condition prevents them from wearing an identity band, the parents or guardian must be informed of the potential risks. The child’s parent or guardian must confirm identity before any drug or blood product administration or prior to any invasive procedure. This must be documented in patient’s records.

- All action taken should be recorded appropriately

References

1. NPSA Identification of Neonates NPSA October 2008
Identification of neonates: antenatal

Antenatal admission to hospital

Is the mother booked to deliver at this hospital?

YES
- Check mother’s ID against her records and produce wristband
- Check and apply wristband

NO
- Take mother’s details
- Compile a set of medical records
- Produce, check and apply wristband

Baby/babies born

Singleton
As soon as possible and before leaving the delivery suite produce TWO wristbands for each baby

Multiple Birth
Midwife to ensure adequate number of umbilical cord clamps/ligatures to enable identification of babies at delivery:
- One cord clamp/ligature for Twin I or Triple I
- Two cord clamps/ligatures for Twin II or Triple II
- Three cord clamps/ligatures for Triple III etc.

As soon as possible and before leaving the delivery suite produce TWO wristbands for each baby

Check wristband(s) before applying to the baby’s/babies’ ankles. (Extra cord clamps, if applied, can then be removed.)

Identification of newborns

The NPSA uses the term 'wristband' which covers both wristbands and any other form of identity band.

If a wristband is produced by a non-regulated person (i.e. Maternity Care Assistant), it must be counter-checked by a registered professional.

Wristband information: mother
- LAST NAME, first name
- Date of birth
- NHS Number (or local hospital number until this is available)
- Please refer to NPSA Safer Practice Notice 24: Standardising wristbands improves patient safety (www.npsa.nhs.uk/nhs/alerts-and-directives/notices/wristbands)

Wristband information: baby
- TWINS/TRIPLET IVIII if applicable
- Mother’s LAST NAME, baby boy/girl
- Date of birth
- Time of birth
- Baby’s NHS Number (or local hospital number until this is available).

For babies needing urgent transfer to Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) or specialist unit post delivery
- Before the baby is removed from the delivery suite, some form of reliable identification must be applied - wherever possible this should be as outlined opposite.
- However, when babies are very premature some wristbands may cause damage to their skin and an alternative method of identification may be more appropriate and practical as an interim measure.

Checking wristbands
- Check all wristbands with the mother and her birth partner (or member of staff where necessary) before applying.
- The wristbands must be checked every day by a member of staff during the daily examination.

If a wristband becomes detached from the baby:
- Produce and apply a new wristband.
- If both wristbands are lost:
  o Inform the midwife in charge of the shift;
  o Check every other baby’s wristbands on the ward before wristbands are replaced;
  o Complete an incident form.
- If two or more babies do not have wristbands, follow local policies for identification.

0798 | October 2006
Identification of neonates: post-natal

Post-natal admission to hospital

Was the mother booked with this trust?

Yes

- Check mother’s and baby’s ID against their records

No

- Take details of mother and baby/babies. Compile a set of medical records for baby/babies (and mother if necessary) including the NHS Number if known (or local hospital number until this is available)

Are both mother and baby being admitted?

Yes

- Produce and check wristband for mother
- Apply to mother

As soon as possible produce TWO wristbands for each baby

No – just baby/babies

- Check both wristbands and apply to baby’s/babies’ ankles

Identification of newborns

The NPSA uses the term ‘wristband’ which covers both wristbands and any other form of identity band.

If a wristband is produced by a non-regulated person (i.e. Maternity Care Assistant), it must be counter-checked by a registered professional.

Wristband information: mother

- LAST NAME, first name
- Date of birth
- NHS Number (or local hospital number until this is available)
- Please refer to NPSA Safer Practice Notice 24: Standardising wristbands improves patient safety (www.npsa.nhs.uk/nhs/alerts-and-directives/notices/wristbands)

Wristband information: baby

- TWINS/TRIPLET (if applicable)
- Mother’s LAST NAME, baby boy/girl
- Date of birth
- Time of birth
- Baby’s NHS Number (or local hospital number until this is available)

Checking wristbands

- Check all wristbands with the mother and her birth partner (or member of staff where necessary) before being applied.
- The wristbands must be checked every day by a member of staff during the daily examination

If a wristband becomes detached from the baby:

- Produce and apply a new wristband.
- If both wristbands are lost:
  o inform the midwife in charge of the shift;
  o check every other baby’s wristbands on the ward before wristbands are replaced;
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0798 | October 2008