Policy Title/Number:   Delayed Cord Clamping Policy

Manual:             OB/GYN Website
                   Labor and Delivery Policy Manual

Categories:

Contributors:

Deborah Wage – Co-Director Low Risk OB
Nicole Powell – Manager, Labor and Delivery
Bennett Spetalnick MD – Medical Director, Labor and Delivery
Peter Grubb MD – Pediatrics
William Walsh – NICU

Review Responsibility: OB PCC Committee

Effective Date: January 18, 2011

Last Revised Date: 1/2011

Team Members Performing:

___ x ___ RN
    ___ LPN
    ___ Care Partner/Patient Care Technician
    ___ x ___ Other licensed staff (specify): Physician and Certified Nurse Midwife
    ___ Other non-licensed staff (specify): ___

Guidelines Applicable to:

___ x ___ VUH
    ___ VMG*
    ___ VCH
    ___ PHV

Other (specify):

___ Exceptions (specify): ____________________________

*includes satellite sites unless otherwise specified.

Guidelines Applicable to:

___ All patient care areas
___ All inpatient areas
___ Adult areas only
___ Pediatric areas only
Delayed Cord Clamping and Cutting Policy

I. Outcome Goal: To ensure appropriate care of the mother and newborn when delayed cord cutting is implemented.

II. Policy: To outline the procedures to be followed when delayed cord cutting of the newborn is implemented.

III. Equipment/Supplies: as needed.

IV. Protocol for term newborn:
   A. Definition of and rationale for delayed cord cutting of the term newborn
      The clamping and cutting of the umbilical cord is delayed for a minimum of 2 minutes to facilitate delivery of approximately 40ml of additional blood per kg of infant bodyweight which amounts to an additional 75 mg of iron to the iron stores. This additional iron is sufficient to meet the needs of a 6-11 month old for an additional 3 months.

   B. Eligibility requirements
      -Inclusion criteria: term singleton newborn
      -Exclusion criteria: fetal compromise including, but not limited by that indicated by EFM or a 1 minute APGAR <7

   C. Immediate Care of the newborn
      -Initial assessment: can be done on mother's abdomen, providers lap or bed
      -Assigning APGARS: Nursing or providers

V. Protocol for preterm newborn:
   A. Definition of and rationale for delayed cord cutting of the preterm newborn
      The clamping and cutting of the umbilical cord is delayed for a maximum of 30 seconds to facilitate delivery of additional blood /iron to the iron stores.
B. Eligibility requirements
   - Inclusion criteria: preterm singleton newborn >23 6/7 weeks
   - Exclusion criteria: fetal compromise including, but not limited by that indicated by EFM or NICU staff recommendation.

C. Immediate Care of the newborn
   - Initial assessment: can be done on the providers lap or while holding the baby at the mother’s thigh level.
   - Assigning APGARS: not indicated at 30 seconds

VI. Procedure(s) for term newborn:
   - Deliver baby, note time and place on the mother’s abdomen unless mother has requested otherwise.
   - Do not clamp or cut cord for minimum of 2 minutes
   - Initial newborn assessment and one minute APGAR to be done during this time by nursing or providers

VII. Procedure(s) for preterm newborn:
   - Deliver baby, note time and place on the providers lap or holding the baby at the mother’s thigh level.
   - Do not clamp or cut cord for a max of 30 seconds
   - Initial newborn assessment to be done during this time by nursing

VIII. Nursing Implications:
   - Education to mother and/or family regarding procedure expected at delivery.
   - Ask mother’s preference for placement of infant after delivery: if term, on abdomen or to remain on lap or on bed with delivering provider; if preterm, only offering lap or held at thigh level.
   - Remove belts from mother, encourage skin to skin for term delivery
   - APGAR assignment for term delivery, but provider may alternatively

IX. Delivering provider
   - Prepare to care for infant at site of delivery: towels, bulb syringe, hat, meds if indicated
   - Remove belts from mother, encourage skin to skin for term delivery
   - APGAR assignment when indicated for term delivery

VIII. Patient/Family Education:
   - See Above
IX. Documentation:
- Delivery note addition: “Term Baby protocol: Cord clamped and cut after 2 minutes: Yes  No.  If no reason: ________________________________”

- Delivery note addition: “Preterm Baby protocol: Cord clamped and cut after 30 seconds: Yes  No.  If no reason: ________________________________”

X. Cross References: none

XI. References:
Late vs Early Clamping of the Umbilical Cord in Full-term Neonates
Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Controlled Trials
Hutton, Eileen K., PhD; Hussan, Eman S., MBBCh

XII. Web References: None

XIII. Contributors:
Original:
Deborah Wage, MSN, FNP, CNM – Co-Director Low Risk OB
Beverly Scruggs RN, BSN – Manager, Labor and Delivery
Bennett Spetalnick MD – Medical Director, Labor and Delivery
Christopher Greeley MD – Chief, General Pediatrics
Shonna Tharp RN – Labor and Delivery

Revisions:
Bennett Spetalnick MD – Medical Director, Labor and Delivery

XIV. Endorsement:
Obstetric Patient Care Committee
Women’s Patient Care Center – Leadership/Executive Committee
Clinical Practice Committee – (month/year approved)

XV. Approval:
Howard Jones, MD.
Chair OB/GYN Department

Frank Boehm, MD.
Vice Chair OB/GYN Department

Robin Mutz, RNC, MPPM.
Administrative Director for Women’s Health

Nicole Powell, RN, BSN.
Manager for Labor and Delivery

Bennett Spetalnick, MD.
Medical Director for Labor and Delivery