

NCCU CLINICAL GUIDELINES



Preface
Disclaimer/Aims
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PREFACE



Neonatology Clinical Guidelines
King Edward Memorial/Princess Margaret Hospital
Perth Western Australia

DISCLAIMER

The information presented in this publication is provided voluntarily as a public service. The information and advice provided is made available in good faith and is derived from sources believed to be reliable and accurate at the time of publication. Whilst every attempt has been made to ensure accuracy of the publication, the publication is a guide only and should not be seen as a substitute for obtaining appropriate professional advice.

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These Guidelines provide a comprehensive collection of recommendations, protocols and procedures to guide the practice of both medical and nursing personnel within the Neonatology Clinical Care Unit (NCCU) of the King Edward Memorial Hospital and Princess Margaret Hospital of Western Australia.

The information, management regimes and protocols within these Guidelines have been designed with regard to reducing inappropriate variation in practice and promotion of appropriate care for specific clinical circumstances.

Neonatal care involves a wide range of interventions and draws on a diverse evidence base. It is imperative that our clinical staff possess the knowledge and skills to identify specific requirements, rationale and potential complications of each procedure before commencing any care.

AIMS OF OUR GUIDELINES

Clinical Evidence aims to help people make informed decisions about which treatments to use. It can also show where more research is needed. For readers of these Guidelines we aim to highlight treatments that work and treatments where the benefits outweigh the harms. We also wish to highlight treatments that do not work or for which the harms outweigh the benefits. As such our aims are as follows:

1. To provide direction for the management of many common, and some uncommon, conditions encountered in the newborn period.
2. To promote and achieve an optimum standard of Neonatal Care throughout the state of Western Australia.
3. To reduce variation and hence confusion in practice.
4. To provide a forum for ongoing review, development and improvement in neonatal care.
5. To provide holistic patient centred care.