



Clinical Practice Guideline

Guideline coverage includes NICU KEMH, NICU PCH and NETS WA

Admission: Re-admission of Infants to the Neonatal Unit KEMH

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#)

In general infants are not re-admitted to the unit. The following exceptions apply:

- Any infant who **is < 41+2** weeks corrected gestational age that requires readmission **within the first week after discharge** and does not need to be in an isolation cubicle.
- Any infant with rhesus disease who requires a blood transfusion for a low haemoglobin can be readmitted **up to 16 weeks post discharge**.

All infants readmitted to the Neonatal Unit from home, with a possible infection, may initially need to be nursed in an incubator to isolate them from the other infants until investigations are carried out. They can be allowed out of the incubator for feeds if applicable. The decision to nurse them in an open cot, prior to results of pending investigations, will be made at the discretion of the consultant.

Criteria for Paediatric Review and/or Re-admission to Postnatal Wards (KEMH)

Infants who are referred from home and who are suspected of being septic should **not** be re-admitted to the postnatal wards. Please discuss with the PCH NICU duty consultant who will decide if the infant should go directly to PCH NICU or be referred to PCH emergency department.

The following are the criteria for paediatric review / re-admission to a KEMH postnatal ward:

- Any baby within the first week of discharge from KEMH postnatal ward with:
 - Feeding difficulties.
 - Weight loss of >10% of birth weight.
 - Jaundice.
- Any rhesus isoimmunised baby requiring transfusion for a low haemoglobin level up to 16 weeks of discharge from KEMH.
- Any baby within the first week of discharge that, in the opinion of the VMS midwife requires a non-urgent paediatric review can be referred to KEMH emergency centre. If however VMS are concerned the infant is unwell or ill, urgent review should be sort at the nearest paediatric emergency centre.
- Any baby in the first week of life who needs a medical review within 48 hours after discharge can be considered for review in KEMH EC after discussion with the Neonatal Consultant / Senior Registrar.

Re-admission of Infants to Ward 6B PMHRefer to [Admission: Ward 3B PCH](#).**Related policies**[CAHS Admission of Non Elective Patients](#)**Related WNHS policies, procedures and guidelines**WNHS Policy [Clinical Handover](#)Neonatal Clinical Guidelines - [Admission: Ward 3B PCH](#)Obstetrics & Gynaecology Guideline – [Agnes Walsh House: transfer of a postnatal woman +/- her baby](#)

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