VMS: READMISSION OF A BABY / BABIES TO KEMH

Keywords: visiting midwifery service, VMS, readmission, emergency centre, EC, patient review, neonatal review, paediatric review, patient discharge

PURPOSE

• To outline the criteria for the review / readmission of babies to King Edward Memorial Hospital (KEMH) and provide a clear and efficient process for readmission of a baby and its mother.

KEY POINTS

• If the baby is < 24 hours old following a vaginal birth or < 4 days old following a caesarean birth the mother shall be admitted as an acute admission with the baby.
• If the baby is > 24 hours old following a vaginal birth or > 4 days old following a caesarean birth, and the mother does not require ongoing medical / midwifery care, the mother is to be admitted as a boarder. If the mother does require ongoing medical / midwifery care she is to be admitted as an acute admission.
• Maternal admissions either as a boarder or as an acute admission are to be under the previous obstetric team allocation.

Criteria for paediatric review and/ or readmission

• Any baby within the first week of discharge from KEMH with:
  ➢ Feeding difficulties
  ➢ Weight loss of ≥10% of birth weight or inadequate weight gain
  ➢ Jaundice that is increasing and the baby is lethargic and not feeding
• Any baby within the first week of discharge that, in the opinion of the VMS midwife requires review.

Procedure for paediatric review

• Where a baby meets any of the above review/readmission criteria the Visiting Midwifery Service (VMS midwife) will inform the paediatric registrar (page 3249) that the baby is coming in for review.
• If the baby is coming in for review the VMS midwife will inform the KEMH Emergency Centre and ask the parents/guardian to bring the baby to the KEMH Emergency Centre.
• Complete the Emergency Centre VMS Referral form (MR026)

Any baby that is unwell should be referred to PMH Emergency Centre or the nearest Emergency Centre.

REFERENCES / STANDARDS

National Standards – 9 Recognising and Responding to Clinical Deterioration
Legislation - Nil
Related Policies - Nil
Other related documents – Nil

RESPONSIBILITY

Policy Sponsor: Nursing and Midwifery Director
Initial Endorsement: October 2004
Last Reviewed: November 2014
Last Amended: January 2015
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