

## Infant Abduction Risk Reduction

### **Purpose:**

To provide maximum safety and security to the infants and families on the inpatient obstetrics unit at ANMC.

### **Guideline:**

1. Infants will be swaddled in hospital receiving blankets and wear armbands (newborn identification armband and medication armband with barcode) at all times while admitted to the Mother Baby Unit.
2. All entrances to the Obstetrics unit remain locked and closed at all times. East and West entrances are armed with a delayed alarm system which is activated if opened prior to disabling alarm. Alarm can be deactivated on either side of the door by authorized personnel via keypad. All staff who can safely step away from direct patient care will respond to alarm if activated.
3. A surveillance camera will monitor the elevator, stairway, and corridor areas adjacent to the unit 24 hours/day.
4. Each time a visitor or family member enters or leaves the unit, they are required to sign their names, the room they are visiting, and the time in our guest registry log which is located at the OB Triage desk. This includes the patient's significant other.
  - 4.1. Staff will question all visitors to verify the guest they are here to see is still an inpatient on our unit and is accepting visitors.
  - 4.2. Staff will share no information on patients that wish to remain private.
5. Infants will be transported through hallways in their bassinets.
6. Mother/family will be instructed not to allow infant to be handled by anyone not known to them, or not wearing OB scrubs and appropriate picture identification..
7. Infants will not be given to any individual except mother/adoptive mother of infant or secondary banded individual.
8. Staff will report the presence of any unknown individual on the unit without a legitimate reason for being there to the charge nurse and/or security officer on duty.
9. If a staff member suspects that an infant has been abducted they will call ext. 1111 to request a Code Pink announcement, and all available staff members

(those who can safely leave their patient's bedside) will begin a search of all rooms. There must also be a staff member to stand at each exit until cleared. Anchorage Police Department will be called in per security protocol.

**10. Response to a Suspicious Person during a Code Pink / Purple:**

10.1. If you see someone with a large bag or leaving with a child or infant:

10.1.1. Tell them this is an emergency situation. It will be necessary to wait a moment while we clear every adult with an infant or child.

10.1.2. We also need to check all bags.

10.1.3. If the person refuses, report to Security at ext. 2915.

10.1.4. Keep a mental note of details, physical description, and behavior.

10.1.5. Do not try to physically stop a suspect, however, follow them out of the building from a safe distance and try to determine the direction they are leaving and/or a vehicle description and license plate number.

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