NEONATAL DISCHARGE COUNSELLING



KEY POINTS

Follow-up with your doctor in 24-72h.



Don't wait more than **4 hours** between baby's feeds.

Seek medical attention **immediately** if your baby is unwell or has a **Temp >38°C or <36°C**. Supplement with **Vitamin D** 400 units (1 drop) daily.

Always place your baby on their back to

Babies should wear a onesie and or sleep

SAFE SLEEP (Strategies to Reduce Sudden Infant Death Syndrome)



Place your baby to sleep in a crib or bassinet next to your bed.



Breastfeeding can protect your baby.

Safe sleep environment: firm surface, no pillows, toys, or bumper pads.



sleep.

Provide a smoke-free environment.

sack. Do not swaddle in blankets.

CHILD-PROOFING YOUR HOME

Lock away **medications** and cleaning products.

Remove **small objects** or broken parts that could be choking hazards.

Use **stair gates** and **window guards**. Baby walkers on wheels should <u>never</u> be used.

Cover electrical outlets; tuck away cords. Secure furniture to walls.



Keep infant away from **hot surfaces** and be careful when handling **hot liquids**.

BATH SAFETY



Never leave a baby **unattended** in a bathtub/ baby tub. Adjust hot water tank to **max of 49°C** to prevent burns.



Bath seats, rings, and older children are <u>not</u> safe alternatives to parental supervision.

CAR SAFETY



Infants should be in a **rear facing** car seat in the **back**, ideally in the middle position, until at least **1 year and 10kg**.



Follow specific car seat instructions and ensure proper installation.

SAFETY OUTSIDE THE HOME



Babies who cannot sit without support cannot wear a personal flotation device. 1:1 adult:infant supervision is advised.



Ensure latch is snug over the chest at nipple line. Allow for two fingers between latch and chest.



Car seats are **not a safe place** for your newborn to sleep.



Prevent **frostbite** by limiting time spent outdoors below **-15°C**.

Published July 2021

Heather Halperin (Medical Student, University of Alberta) and Dr. L. Cynthia Gunaratnam (Pediatrician, University of Alberta) for www.pedscases.com