### Pre-operative care

Name: _______________________  Date: ______________________

Date of Birth: __________________  Diagnosis: __________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NURSING INSTRUCTION</th>
<th>NURSING ACTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. STABILISE VITAL SIGNS | ▪ Administer O₂ as required to maintain saturation > 90%
▪ Maintain a patent airway. Suction airways if required
▪ Nurse in a neutral thermal environment in order to maintain temperature 36° - 37°C
▪ Maintain mean BP ± 2 > gestational age
▪ Maintain apex beat between 120 -160bpm. Tachycardia may indicate stress, pain, shock or hyperthermia
▪ Obtain blood gas sample. Check for and treat any respiratory/metabolic acidosis/alkalosis as ordered
▪ Maintain blood glucose > 2.5mmol/l. Administer glucose at 6-8mg/kg/min |
| 2. PREVENT ANAEMIA | ▪ Obtain FBC and cross match as ordered
▪ Transfuse as ordered
▪ Observe for signs of excessive bleeding, e.g. puncture sites, nasopharynx or ET aspirates (may indicate a low platelet count or clotting problem) |
| 3. MAINTAIN FLUID BALANCE | ▪ Administer daily fluid requirements (see Neonate Care Plan)
▪ Replace extra fluid losses, e.g. vomitus, gastric aspirates and insensible fluid loss
▪ Check urine dipstick for SG, blood and leucocytes
▪ Obtain U+E as ordered |
| 4. ENSURE CONSENT IS OBTAINED | ▪ Ensure surgeons adequately inform parents (use translator if required) and obtain consent for surgery
▪ The medical superintendent can consent for emergency surgery where a parent is unavailable |
| 5. PREPARE FOR SURGERY | ▪ Keep nil per mouth as ordered
▪ Do skin prep if ordered or wash baby as condition permits
▪ Complete anaesthetic form
▪ Ensure baby is correctly identified
▪ Administer premed as ordered
▪ Ensure an ICU crib and ventilator are available if needed post operatively
▪ Prepare ICU crib for transport: clean linen, oxygen cylinder and ambubag, portable drip stand, baby warmer, VP line and jejunal tube if required |
| 6. PREPARE FOR TRANSFER TO REFERRAL HOSPITAL (if required) | ▪ Complete transfer documents
▪ Notify receiving unit
▪ Organise ambulance transport and transport nurse if required |
| 7. MAINTAIN PARENTAL SUPPORT | ▪ Inform, support and reassure parents at all times in a calm, patient and empathetic manner
▪ Allow parents to accompany baby en route to theatre |

Last modified: 26 June 2007  For review: 2009