



# MATERNITY WARD AND NEONATAL NURSERIES – DISTRICT HOSPITAL

Infrastructure to cater for 1 500 – 3 000 deliveries per annum

## Overall flow of the ward:

- ⇒ Antenatal cubicles
- ⇒ Entrance & admission
- ⇒ Delivery suite
- ⇒ Neonatal resuscitation area
- ⇒ Post Caesarian section cubicle
- ⇒ Post natal cubicles
- ⇒ **\*\*\*Well baby nursery \*\*\***
- ⇒ **\*\*\*Neonatal nursery for small and sick babies\*\*\***
- ⇒ All the support services
- ⇒ Staff facilities
- ⇒ Service facilities - storage, ablutions, sluice room etc
- ⇒ Patient facilities – counseling rooms

## The neonatal component of the maternity ward must:

- be distinct from the maternal components
- have no through traffic
- have strict access control
- comprise four major elements:
  - rooming-in
  - a “well baby” facility
  - Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) unit
  - a neonatal nursery for “small or sick babies”.

Rooming in must be considered the norm and facilities must provide adequate space to allow all babies to stay with their mothers.

**The well baby nursery is an integral part of the post natal component of the ward. It needs to cater for well babies and allow for observations, procedures, phototherapy and bathing. Requirements of this nursery are:**

- Usually behind or next to the nurses station
- Glass wall for easy observation of babies
- Heated to an ambient temperature of around 26o C
- Baby bath with adjacent work surface
- Two sets of service points with oxygen, suction and four electrical outlets
- Space for a resuscitation unit and four basinets

**The neonatal nursery must form an independent component within the maternity ward with a KMC unit, an isolation cubicle and patient area with general and high care beds.**

Requirements of this unit are:

- Single access point
- Support services separated from patient area by double doors
- Hand basin on entry to the unit
- The entire unit must have ambient temperature of around 26° C

**Flow of the nursery:**

- ⇒ Entrance to support services area
- ⇒ KMC unit off the support services
- ⇒ Central Sister-in-charge's office:
  - to control access to nursery & KMC unit
  - allow observation of isolation cubicle & patient area

**Isolation cubicle**

- Patient area

**KMC unit**

- Access from support area of nursery
- Minimum of 2 beds
- En-suite ablutions
- Day room / lounge

**Nursery**

- Minimum of 4 beds – 50% high care and 50% general beds
- Services for high care beds - oxygen, medical air, suction and 10 electrical points per bed
- Services for standard beds – oxygen, suction and two electrical points per two beds
  - Hands-free basin – 1 per unit or every six beds
  - Baby bath – 1 per unit or every ten beds

**Isolation unit**

- 1 bed per unit
- Minimum space of 6 m<sup>2</sup> per cubicle
- Hands-free basin at entrance
- Serviced with oxygen, medical air, suction and 10 electrical points

**Nurses work station with a view of all beds****Support services**

- Sister's office
- Staff room with en-suite ablution
- Counseling room
- Multipurpose storeroom
- Equipment storeroom
- Small kitchen