



Purpose

The purpose of this case study is to help you practice how to manage a baby with hypothermia.

Complete the case study below and discuss your answers as a group with the facilitator.

Scenario:

- An infant was brought into the postnatal unit from labour ward half an hour after being born. The baby is wrapped in a wet towel.
- Estimated gestational age is 36 weeks with a birth weight of 2300g.
- Baby appears lethargic.
- Axillary temperature on arrival to the ward is 35.5°C.

1. Give 3 probable reasons as to why this baby became hypothermic:

2. What would be your immediate management of the baby?

3. How should this baby have been kept warm in the labour ward?

4. When and why should this baby should be fed?

5. Name the different ways in which heat is lost and how can a nurse prevent this?
