

Levels of Maternal Newborn Care in Ontario

Level III, may also be called tertiary care.

This is the highest level of care reserved for the sickest babies in Ontario. There are 8 of these units in Ontario.

Level II, including three levels: IIA, IIB, and IIC.

Level II units are located in most large community hospitals. They care for babies less ill and those recovering from level III care but not quite ready to be discharged home. Babies are transferred to a level II unit as part of the regionalized system of maternal newborn care in Ontario.

Level I

Level I units are located in smaller hospitals and care for low risk mothers and babies. Most babies stay with their mothers throughout their hospital stay.



www.pcmch.on.ca

RETRO-TRANSFER INFORMATION



**What you need to know
about transferring your
baby to another hospital**





Frequently asked questions

The Philosophy of Care for the Provincial Council for Maternal and Child Health (PCMCH)

The Provincial Council for Maternal and Child Health supports Ontario's maternal and child health care providers in the delivery of health care services that are timely, high quality, accessible and family-centered. Our focus is on delivering the right care in the right place as close to home as possible.

1. Why is my baby being transferred?

As your baby gets bigger and stronger, s/he will be transferred to a hospital that provides the level of care your baby needs. This is a step in getting ready to go home. This is part of the regionalization of health care in Ontario. It is important that your baby graduate to an appropriate level of care when ready. This is the first of many graduation steps and although it may be a bit scary for you, it is also very exciting to see your baby make progress.

2. What can I expect when my baby arrives?

When your baby moves to the new hospital, a health care provider will go with your baby. Your baby will travel in a transport incubator. S/he will be fully monitored during the transfer. The staff in the new unit will be informed about your baby's condition and progress. Information will have been given to the receiving doctor and hospital prior to the transfer.

Patients who move between facilities will have precautions taken for infection. As a routine precaution, your baby may be placed into "isolation" for a short period of time. This is a standard procedure for patients transferred from another hospital.

The team you will meet in the new hospital are qualified to care for your baby. Although the number of babies assigned to each nurse may be different, you can be confident that your baby will be monitored appropriately.

The following list of topics and questions may help you prepare for transfer to the new hospital.

Unit Name: _____

Floor: _____ Elevator: _____ Phone #: _____

Special Access Information: _____

1. Map and directions to the hospital.
2. Parking and public transit information including parking costs.
3. Time period that parents can be with their baby, handwashing and gowning guidelines.
4. Who can come into the unit with me when my baby arrives?
5. Are breast pumps available to use or rent?
6. Are care-by-parent and rooming-in facilities available?

Additional notes