

## Newborn Discharge Criteria – Term Infants (newborn > 37 wks.)

- Vital Signs fall within normal limits (**RR 30-60/min, 100-160/min, Axilla Temp. 36.5-37.5**)
- No evidence of sepsis (**temperature instability, respiratory distress, tachycardia, pallor, cyanosis, hypo/hyperglycemia, decreased tone, lethargy, irritability**)
- Physical examination by most responsible practitioner within 24 hours of birth
- Normal Voiding and Stooling patterns
- They have received all of their medications and immunizations
- Weight loss of 10% or less (**weight losses approaching 10% require more clinical assessment**)
- Metabolic Screen is completed or a plan is in place to have it completed by day 4
- Hearing screen completed or parents are aware of how to make appointment
- Physician who will provide ongoing care is identified or parents have resources to find a family physician
- Jaundice teaching done and follow-up planned or understood by parents
- Breastfeeding Assessment showing that the newborn has a deep latch, shows signs of effective drinking and audible swallowing (**2 consecutive feeds**)
- Mother is able to demonstrate an understanding of the signs of effective feeding
- If alternate feeding plan is in place the mother is able to follow it independently
- Non Breastfeeding mothers understand how to prepare and store infant formula as well as the quantity to feed.

### **Within 4 hours prior to discharge you need to have:**

- TCB completed
- A set of vital signs completed (report any abnormal finding to the appropriate physician)

### **A NEWBORN WEIGHT IS REQUIRED PRIOR TO DISCHARGE**

**Newborns discharged before 24 hours are to be followed up within 2 days by an appropriate healthcare practitioner.**