

newborn intensive care unit



division update

community outreach and collaboration



**WRIGHT STATE
UNIVERSITY**



- One of Dayton Children's neonatal nurse practitioners (NNP) facilitates the neonatal nurse practitioner focus of the master's in nursing program at Wright State University (WSU).
- We provided in-person clinical rotations for WSU students during the pandemic and through this collaboration we improved our neonatal nurse practitioner staffing.
- The NICU collaboration has resulted in five neonatal nurse practitioners being educated and hired by Dayton Children's NICU.
- The NICU provider team has partnered with Brigid's Path, a recovery center for infants born exposed to an addictive substance, to improve the care of babies and families with substance exposure.
- Our NICU NNP, in collaboration with neonatologists, round on babies at Brigid's Path and provides ongoing management and care as babies recover from acute withdrawal.
- The neonatologists and neonatal nurse practitioners provide education about neonatal abstinence syndrome and other clinical conditions at area adult hospitals.
- Military-mandated STABLE CLASS for all residents and interns including WPAFB personnel (attending and nurses).
- Trained community RNs with Partners in Practice, a community support program aimed to train staff to be ready to stabilize sick babies at their hospitals and when deployed.

about us

Our NICU is the most comprehensive NICU in the region and is the main referral center for premature and sick newborns. Newborns who reach our center have a 99% survival rate and a low incidence of complications.

Our regional NICU offers a single-family room design which has been proven to increase skin-to-skin contact, enhance success rates of breastfeeding, further reduce infection and noise, and increase privacy - ultimately creating better outcomes for the region's most fragile babies.



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SENSE program safe sleep gold status

SENSE program helps babies grow in a developmentally appropriate environment.



- Supporting and Enhancing NICU Sensory Experiences (SENSE) is a comprehensive approach to ensure positive sensory exposures across hospitalization for high-risk infants in the NICU.
- The SENSE program provides education to engage families in providing developmentally appropriate positive sensory exposures to optimize outcomes for their infant(s).
- Topics of education include: medical terminology, fetal development in the final months of pregnancy, the sensory environment of the NICU, sensory development, reading infant cues, identifying readiness for sensory exposures, how to provide different sensory exposures, and a week-by-week guide on specific doses and timing of sensory exposures to ensure consistent and developmentally appropriate delivery of positive sensory experiences at each postmenstrual age.



We are certified as gold status for safe sleep.

To achieve gold status, hospitals must meet the following criteria:

- Implement hospital or hospital system-wide infant safe sleep policy in alignment with current AAP recommendations.
- Deliver safe sleep health care team member training to nursing staff caring for patients less than one-year-old.
- Provide safe sleep education to family/caregivers of infants less than one-year-old.
- Provide safe sleep education on the hospital website.
- Provide hospital-wide imagery to meet AAP compliance.
- Implement quality improvement initiative via unit-based safe sleep compliance audits.
- Distribute wearable blankets hospital-wide to infants less than one year.
- Identify at-risk family/caregivers in need of infant safe sleep spaces and distribute safe sleep spaces before discharge.
- Engage in community outreach initiatives to educate the community on infant safe sleep.

flight support program

Working in the NICU can be a stressful, challenging job. That's why at Dayton Children's we have the Flight Support Program. It's a staff support program in which peers are trained to recognize and respond to colleagues in crisis. These peer supporters are designated with a special pin for immediate recognition and are readily available when a staff member needs to speak to someone.



#1 in Ohio

