



Welcome to the Special Care Nursery (SCN). Our goal is to help you to become more comfortable and confident in taking care of your baby at home. Our SCN Team includes highly experienced healthcare providers trained to care for the special needs of babies.

Why is my baby in the Special Care Nursery (SCN)

The Level 2B SCN provides care to babies who have been born preterm or who need special nursing and medical care. Some babies are born at Georgetown Hospital, Milton District Hospital or Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital and are then cared for in the Special Care nursery until they are able to go home. Other babies may have been born at or transferred to a hospital which provides more intensive, specialized care for newborns. When your baby is more stable and doing well, she/he may be transferred to the Special Care Nursery at Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital, Halton Healthcare.

Parents are Important to Babies

Your love, touch and presence are very important to your baby. Your baby knows your voice and touch, and thrives on your presence. The more you hold and care for your baby in the SCN the more comfortable and confident in handling your newborn you will be when your baby goes home. At each baby's cubicle there is a pull out chair for your comfort. We understand that you may not be able to be with your baby at all times. Please call the SCN at any time to speak with your baby's nurse about your baby's progress. We have two new Courtesy Rooms to support establishing breastfeeding, and a Care by Parent Room for parents to have an opportunity to care for their baby more independently prior to going home. You may speak to your baby's nurse for more information about these rooms.

Extended family members

At least one parent must be with other family members for safety and confidentiality reasons. Children under the age of 6 who have up to date immunizations accompanied by a parent may visit. Please check with your baby's nurse.

Nursery Guidelines

- Anyone feeling unwell (i.e. cough, fever, runny nose) or having been in contact with any contagious disease (i.e. chicken pox, cold sores) should inform the nurse prior to entering the nursery.
- Please wash your hands with soap at the sink for one minute before entering and exiting the nursery, after diaper changes, and before feeding your baby.
- Hot drinks are not permitted.
- You may take photos of your baby but please ask staff for permission prior to taking their photo.

The Healthcare Team

When it comes to caring for your baby, parents are the most valuable, involved member of the team.

Many health care professionals may be involved in your baby's care and may include Paediatricians, Registered Nurses, Registered Respiratory Therapists, Certified Lactation Consultants, students, volunteers, and others as required. The health care team reviews your baby's progress daily. A Paediatrician is available each day and night. A Clinical Resource Nurse or charge nurse is present each shift. For other concerns the Patient Care Manager can be contacted at 905 845-2571 x 3792.

When can my Baby Come Home?

Each baby grows and develops differently. Your baby will go home when he/she is:

- ✓ Medically Stable
- ✓ Feeds by breast or bottle and gaining weight steadily
- ✓ Passes the care seat test (if required)

We want you and you family to have a positive experience at Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital.

We value your suggestions or feedback.