



**PATIENT ADMINISTRATION**

**PATIENT MOVEMENT: REFERRALS**

**VMS: READMISSION OF A BABY / BABIES TO KEMH**

**Keywords:** visiting midwifery service, VMS, readmission, emergency centre, EC, patient review, neonatal review, paediatric review, patient discharge

PURPOSE

- To outline the criteria for the review / readmission of babies to King Edward Memorial Hospital (KEMH) and provide a clear and efficient process for readmission of a baby and its mother.

KEY POINTS

- If the baby is < 24 hours old following a vaginal birth or < 4 days old following a caesarean birth the mother shall be admitted as an acute admission with the baby.
- If the baby is > 24 hours old following a vaginal birth or > 4 days old following a caesarean birth, and the mother **does not** require ongoing medical / midwifery care, the mother is to be admitted as a boarder. If the mother **does** require ongoing medical / midwifery care she is to be admitted as an acute admission.
- Maternal admissions either as a boarder or as an acute admission are to be under the previous obstetric team allocation.

**Criteria for paediatric review and/ or readmission**

- Any baby within the first week of **discharge** from KEMH with:
  - Feeding difficulties
  - Weight loss of ≥10% of birth weight or inadequate weight gain
  - Jaundice that is increasing and the baby is lethargic and not feeding
- Any baby within the first week of **discharge** that, in the opinion of the VMS midwife requires review.

**Procedure for paediatric review**

- Where a baby meets any of the above review/readmission criteria the Visiting Midwifery Service (VMS midwife) will inform the paediatric registrar (page 3249) that the baby is coming in for review.
- If the baby is coming in for review the VMS midwife will inform the KEMH Emergency Centre and ask the parents/guardian to bring the baby to the KEMH Emergency Centre.
- Complete the Emergency Centre VMS Referral form (MR026)

**Any baby that is unwell should be referred to PMH Emergency Centre or the nearest Emergency Centre.**

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| <b>REFERENCES / STANDARDS</b>   |                                |
| National Standards – 9 Recognising and Responding to Clinical Deterioration<br>Legislation - Nil<br>Related Policies - Nil<br>Other related documents – Nil |                                |
| <b>RESPONSIBILITY</b>   |                                |
| <b>Policy Sponsor</b>   | Nursing and Midwifery Director |
| <b>Initial Endorsement</b>  | October 2004                   |
| <b>Last Reviewed</b>  | November 2014                  |
| <b>Last Amended</b>   | January 2015                   |
| <b>Review date</b>  | November 2017                  |

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