



Preparation in the Village for the Health Aides

- Turn the heat up until everyone is sweating. May need extra space heaters.
- In the warmest part of the clinic, prepare a table with clean blankets, towels, etc.
- If the clinic has a dryer, instruct the health aides to warm the blankets there prior to birth.
- Ensure the following are prepared and functional: suction, oxygen tanks and tubing, BVM with smallest available mask, bulb suction.
- If available, set up desk lamps with old-style bulbs (not the spiral energy-efficient bulbs) to generate more heat.
- Seek out extra health aides or former health aides to help.

Preparation for Medevac

- Review prenatal history and note risk factors for the baby.
- Coordinate with family medicine hospitalist activating the medevac and LifeMed crew about when to meet at the hangar. The LifeMed hangar is located at 3600 Tower Road.
- Turn over the Tiger Connect role for "Peds Wards on Duty" to another pediatrician or the family medicine hospitalist staying behind.
- Establish roles with LifeMed crew. Discuss doses and equipment based on estimated GA.

What to Bring

- Curosurf if GA <32 weeks or unknown: located in the OB medication refrigerator. Place in pink thermal case.
- OB & Pediatric Village Delivery Backpack containing OB and pediatric supplies located in the nursery.
- Resources: [Neonatal Resuscitation Summary](#), [Surfactant Administration](#), [Neopuff Set Up Guide](#), [Pneumothorax Evacuation](#), [Neonatal Glucose Screening Guideline](#).
- Warm clothing. (There is extra warm gear under the bed in the peds call room)
- Snacks, drinks, money, motion sickness medication.

Resuscitation

- Resuscitate per NRP algorithm. Remember that CPAP is a great tool for non-invasive respiratory support for transport.

For infants <32 weeks:

- Place infant directly into polyurethane bag without drying. If intubated, bag may cover face/head.
- Attempt IV or UVC access early.
- See [Surfactant Protocol](#), if indicated.

Delivery is Imminent

- Set up monitor, Neopuff, and intubation equipment (all carried by LifeMed), using sizes recommended by [Neonatal Resuscitation Summary](#).
- Activate chemical mattress just prior to delivery. Cover with single baby blanket.

For High Risk Deliveries, including GA <32 weeks:

- Discuss with neonatologist early – call (907) 212-3614.
- Activate medevac to Anchorage. Consider direct transfer from village, ramp transfer in Bethel, or further stabilization with NICU team in Bethel, as appropriate.
- Prepare polyurethane bag.

Delivery is not Imminent

- Hospitalist assesses mother, does vaginal exam, obtains cultures, etc.
- LifeMed crew cares for mother.
- Pediatrician should help however possible and otherwise stay out of the way.
- Occasionally a mother will be transported to Bethel dilated and in labor. This decision is made if the benefit of being at a higher level of care outweighs the risks of potential delivery en route.

Prior to Transport

- Communicate with OB staff so they are prepared.
- Ensure an Anchorage team has been activated, if needed.

Medications

- Give erythromycin to eyes and vitamin K IM if infant is stable.
- Hepatitis B and HbIg can wait until arrival in Bethel.
- Give ampicillin per Neonatal Resuscitation Summary for all preterm and high risk infants.
- Gentamicin should not be given in the village, as it is high-risk.

Temperature

- Hypothermia in newborns is defined as temp <97.7°F.
- Cold babies do very poorly. It is better to over-prepare (use a polyurethane bag in term babies, etc.) rather than under-prepare.
- The baby pod carried by LifeMed does not have a heat source. It will not generate heat. Avoid placing the baby into it until it has warmed from being outside.
- Check axillary temperature at 5 minutes of life and then Q30 minutes.
- Place a hat and/or saran wrap on the baby as soon as possible.
- Do not remove hat, chemical mattress, or polyurethane bag until arrived at YKHC.
- You may tear holes in the bag to gain access to the baby for procedures.
- Avoid weighing premature babies, as this frequently contributes to heat loss in the village.

Glucose

- Check glucose as soon as possible.
- See [Neonatal Glucose Screening Guideline](#). Goal glucose is >35 in first four hours of life.
- On babies <32 weeks, start D10 maintenance as soon as IV access has been established.
- If unable to get a glucose, have a low threshold to give sugar in preterm or high risk infants.
- If oral dextrose gel unavailable, may give Sweetease, oral glucose, colostrum, formula, or homemade sugar paste. May smear on gums for buccal absorption.

Procedures

Intubation

- Prepare equipment.
- Wipe upper lip and rest of face.
- If need for sedation is anticipated, use morphine 0.05 mg/kg.
- Intubate and confirm placement with auscultation and ET_{CO}₂ detector.
- Tape tube with Benzoin and tape.
- Consider using Neopuff to ventilate en route rather than ventilator.

UVC (Always attempt PIV placement first unless infant is very unstable.)

- Use sterile technique.
- Flush catheter and stopcock with sterile saline. NOTE: the syringes for premade saline flushes are not sterile. You will have to use a sterile syringe to draw up flushes from a NS bag.
- If baby is in polyurethane bag, tear a small opening in the plastic.
- Place the UVC just far enough to get blood return.
- Cover skin around umbilicus with Tegaderm. Tape the UVC to the Tegaderm to secure it.

See [Surfactant Administration](#) and [Pneumothorax Evacuation](#) Resources.

This resource is designed for the general use of most patients but may need to be adapted to meet the special needs of a specific patient as determined by the medical practitioner.

Click [here](#) to see the supplemental resources for this resource.

If comments about this resource, please contact Leslie_Herrmann@ykhc.org.