# WHAT TO KNOW WHEN IT'S TIME TO GO

Getting Ready for a Neonatal Transport

Elizabeth Rex, NNP-BC

- Extreme Prematurity
- ► RDS
- Pneumonia
- Pulmonary Hemorrhage
- Meconium aspiration
- ▶ PPHN
- Diaphragmatic hernia
- Intestinal Obstruction
- Omphalocele
- Gastroschisis
- ▶ NEC
- ▶ HIE
- ▶ Therapeutic Hypothermia
- Seizures
- Myelomeningocele
- Subgaleal Hemorrhage

- Airway
- Vital signs
- ► IV Access Glucose
- Umbilical Lines
- Thermoregulation
- Labwork
- Medications/Copy of the Kardex
- Digital imaging/Copies
- Maternal Paperwork/PNL and Delivery
- ▶ CPETS Form
- Referrals/ Access Center
- ▶ Transport Team composition
- Consent for transport
- ► Parents accompanying a patient on transport
- Report to the Bedside Nurse
- Communication



#### **EXTREME PREMATURITY**

< 28 WEEKS OR <1000 GMS

30 seconds delayed cord clamping

Thermoregulation

Suction with bulb avoid nasopharyngeal suctioning

Resuscitation with 21% heated humidified gas

Maximize non invasive ventilation – PEEP 5-8 cm

Head midline for 72 hrs

Slide diapers under infant do not lift legs up

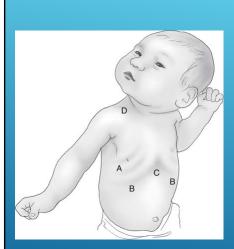
First blood sugar by 10 minutes of life

Avoid Na Bicarbonate

Slow withdrawal of blood no faster than 1 ml every 40 seconds

Slow administration of IV meds

Colostrum oral care as soon as possible



#### **RDS**

Avoid hypoxemia and acidosis with adequate respiratory support

Minimize lung injury secondary due to volutrauma and oxygen toxicity

Optimize fluid management: avoid fluid overload and resultant body and pulmonary edema while averting hypovolemia and hypotension

Reduce metabolic demands

Goal saturations for premature infant 88-92%

Exogenous surfactant in preterm infants improves oxygenation decreases air leaks, reduces mortality due to RDS, and decreases overall mortality.

#### **PNEUMONIA**

- Early-onset pneumonia Early-onset pneumonia is variably defined as within 48 hours to within six days of birth. Earlyonset pneumonia is acquired from the mother by one of three routes:
- Intrauterine aspiration of infected amniotic fluid.
- Transplacental transmission of organisms from the mother to the fetus through the placental circulation.
- Aspiration during or after birth of infected amniotic fluid. The neonate can aspirate vaginal organisms, leading to respiratory colonization and, in some cases, pneumonia. Vaginal colonization with such organisms as group B streptococcus (GBS) does not necessarily result in overt maternal
- Late-onset pneumonia Late-onset pneumonia, which can occur during hospitalization or after discharge, generally arises from organisms colonizing the hospitalized newborn or is nosocomially acquired from infected individuals or contaminated equipment. Microorganisms can invade through injured tracheal or bronchial mucosa or through the bloodstream.

#### **PNEUMONIA**

Risk Factors:

**PROM** 

**PPROM** 

Labor greater than 24 hrs

Unclean vaginal examinations

Foul smelling amniotic fluid

**Maternal Fever** 

#### Pneumonia

- ▶ Tachypnea
- Irregular respiratory movements
- > Apnea
- Nasal flaring

- ► Elevated temp may be present in term

- Empiric antibiotics after getting cultures
- Respiratory support

#### **PULMONARY HEMORRHAGE**

Results from hypoxia and subsequent capillary damage

In massive pulmonary hemorrhage the lungs appear somewhat homogeneously opaque and airless.

Respiratory distress develops quickly

Blood may ooze from the mouth, the nose, or in the ETT

Appearance of fresh frothy pink tinged or blood in the endotracheal tube (ET) or trachea.

Involves clinical deterioration with vasoconstriction, poor perfusion, and worsening respiratory status, accompanied by a drop in hematocrit and abnormal chest radiographic findings.

As increasing amounts of blood are suctioned from the ET, PCO2 starts to rise as does the need for oxygen

BOX 3. Neonatal medical problems associated with pulmonary hemorrhage

- Asphyxia
- Bronchopulmonary dysplasia
   Chronic lung disease
- Congenital mitral stenosis
- Cor triatriatum, pulmonary
   Hemolytic diseases affecting the newborn
- Hyaline membrane disease
- Instrumentation of the nasopharynx or airway
- Intubation
- Left-to-right cardiac shunts
   Left-sided obstructive cardiac lesions disease
- Mechanical ventilation
   Nasogastric feeding tubes
- Persistent pulmonary hypertension of the newborn
- Respiratory distress syndrome
   Surfactant administration
- Venoocclusive disorders

#### **PULMONARY HEMORRHAGE**

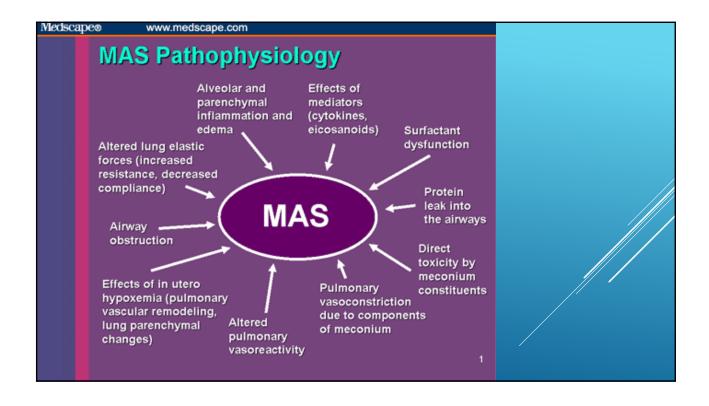
Increase positive end expiratory pressure on ventilator settings PEEP

May need to give surfactant, blood in the lungs shuts down the intrinsic surfactant production (Yes, I know a risk of surfactant administration is a pulmonary hemorrhage)

Check coagulation studies

May need to give fresh frozen plasma FFP to replace coagulation factors

May need to give red blood cells RBCs depending on hematocrit



#### **MECONIUM ASPIRATION**

Adequate oxygenation and ventilation

Avoid air-trapping

Watch out for air leak, CXR for acute deterioration

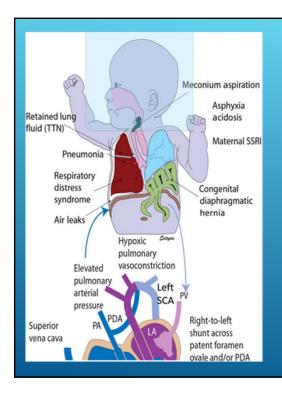
Adequate blood pressure and perfusion

Correction of any metabolic abnormality including hypoglycemia and acidosis, which increase oxygen consumption and risk of PPHN

Empirical antibiotic therapy

Minimal handling of the infant to avoid agitation, which exacerbates PPHN

Care in a neutral thermal environment (unless there are signs of hypoxemic ischemic encephalopathy, which is treated with hypothermia



### PPHN - PERSISTENT PULMONARY HYPERTENSION

Adequate oxygenation and ventilation

Adequate blood pressure and perfusion

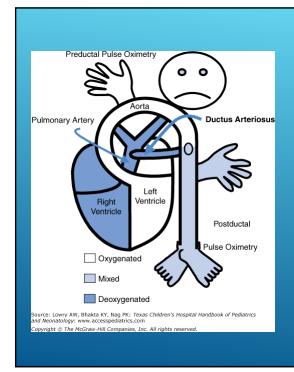
Correction of any metabolic abnormality including hypoglycemia and acidosis, which increase oxygen consumption and risk of increasing PPHN

Minimal handling of the infant to avoid agitation, which exacerbates PPHN

Sedation

Care in a neutral thermal environment (unless there are signs of hypoxemic ischemic encephalopathy, which is treated with hypothermal





## PRE AND POST DUCTAL SATURATIONS

A 10 point difference is considered a split between pre and post ductal saturations and evidence of PPHN

#### DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA



Intubate immediately

Place Replogle (preferred) LCS or OGT LIS to suction as soon as there is access to the infant's face after intubation possible

Place pre- and post-ductal SpO2 monitors

Ventilatory management:

- -low PEEP (2-3 cmH2O)
- -limit PIP (≤ 30 cm H2O)
- -high rate (>100) if chest excursion poor

Give morphine (0.1 mg/kg) and pancuronium or vecuronium (0.1-0.2 mg/kg). These should be prepared before birth. The drugs can be given through the UVC even if tip is not beyond ductus venosus.

Muscular paralysis is used to keep infant from breathing and having air enter the stomach

-In severe cases with herniation of liver into the thorax, it will usually not be possible to advance UVC through ductus venosus because of abnormal anatomy of liver and portal sinus.

In this situation, the line can be maintained below the liver short-term for access for resuscitation, but it cannot be maintained chronically or used for hypertonic fluid administration.



#### **OMPHALOCELE**

Midline abdominal wall defect; bowel covered by membrane

Sac may contain large and small bowel, liver, spleen, ovaries, testes

Etiology

Failure of bowel to complete return to abdomen

Failure to complete lateral wall closure

Persistence of primitive stalk

35-50% deliver preterm; 6-35% have growth restriction

Up to 88% incidence of other anomalies

> 30% incidence of chromosomal abnormalities



#### **OMPHALOCELE**

If the viscera is exposed, large amounts of insensible water and electrolyte losses may occur.

Insensible water loss from a large defect can cause hypothermia, hypotension, decreased bowel perfusion, and acidosis.

Care must be taken to maintain a neutral thermal environment and minimize fluid loss.

An intact omphalocele may be covered with moistened warm gauze

Place an Replogle to low continuous suction or OGT to low intermittent suction to ensure gastric decompression

Place PIV catheter, preferably not in the lower extremities.

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#### **GASTROSCHISIS**

Umbilical wall defect, usually off to the right side Herniation of large and small bowel, sometimes stomach, liver, ovaries

Etiology – vascular accident that disrupts abd wall development, ruptured omphalocele in utero, premature obliteration of the umbilical ring, deficiency of embryonic mesenchyme, thrombosis of omphalomesenteric artery.

More common in teenage mothers

Not associated with chromosomal anomalies

10-25% incidence of intestinal atresias/malrotation (secondary to problems with vascular supply)

Gastroschisis patients frequently have Intrauterine Growth Retardation (IUGR), thus hypoglycemia and polycythemia are possible.

At risk for developing NEC

#### **GASTROSCHISIS**



There should be no dressings placed directly on the gastroschisis defect or ruptured omphalocele.

For gastroschisis or ruptured omphalocele the entire lower body should be placed in a sterile plastic bowel bag to the armpits.

Place an Replogle or LCS or OGT to LIS to ensure gastric decompression.

With gastroschisis, the bowel may become compromised in a matter of minutes.

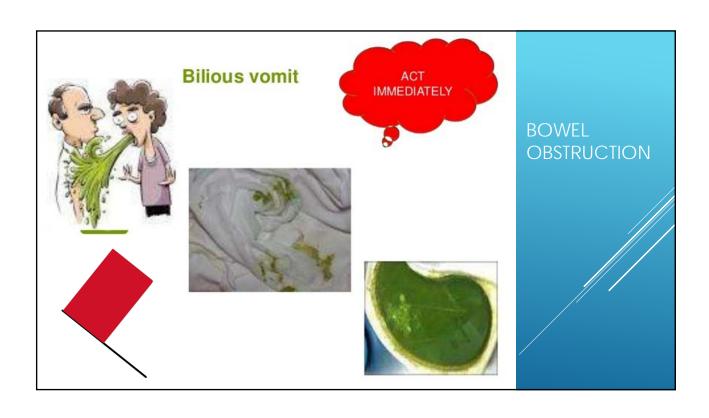
Position infant on side to avoid compromising bowel blood supply.

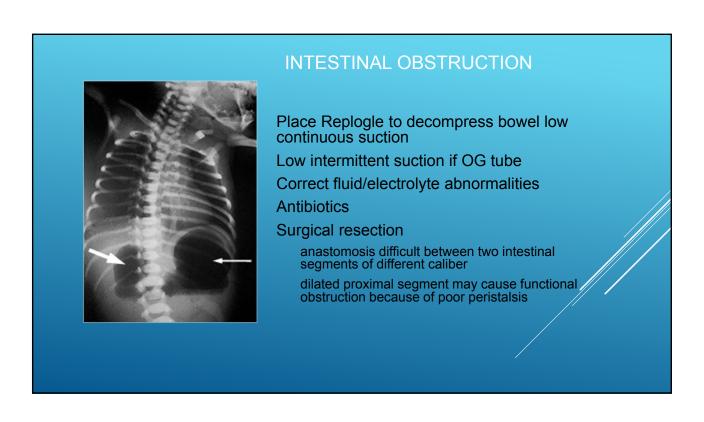
Support the bowel so it does not hang.

Place PIV catheter, preferably not in the lower extremities.

Maintaining a normal temperature is important to ensure adequate perfusion and acid-base balance.

Maintaining adequate hydration and avoidance of hypotension is necessary to ensure good bowel perfusion







# NEC – NECROTIZING ENTEROCOLITIS

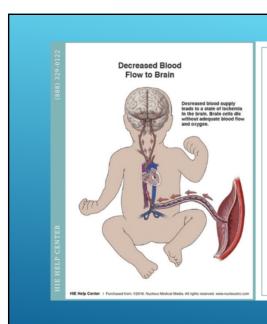
A portion of the bowel dies. It typically occurs in newborns that are either premature or otherwise unwell.

Symptoms may include poor feeding, bloating, decreased activity, blood in the stool, or vomiting of bile.

The exact cause is unclear

#### Management

NPO
Place Replogle to low continuous suction, low intermittent suction if OG tube to decompress bowel Take down IVFs that contain potassium CBC with Diff and platelets Coagulation studies
Antibiotics



# HYPOXIC-ISCHEMIC ENCEPHALOPATHY

Hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy (HIE) is a limitation of oxygen and blood flow around the time of birth. HIE causes brain injury and can result in cerebral palsy and other cognitive and developmental impairments. Other terms used for HIE include birth asphyxia, perinatal asphyxia, and neonatal encephalopathy.

#### THERAPEUTIC COOLING



Turn off radiant heat source

Begin passive cooling

Goal core temp 33.5 +/- 0.5°C (92.3°F +/- 1.0°F)

Document when core temp is reached

Expect baseline HR to fall as patient approaches target

temp. Can be < 100 bpm normally

Keep patient comfortably sedated (avoid shivering)

Avoid Benzodiazepines (Ativan, Versed, etc...)

Watch temperature babies get cold fast!

If patient is too cold < 33°C, turn heater on low. Rewarm at 0.5°C/hr

Avoid big changes in heater temp that may over correct.

#### **SEIZURES**



Check glucose & calcium

Document:

Quality of movement

Tonic - stiff posturing

Clonic – rhythmic single body part

Subtle (ex bicycling, orofacial movements, tremulous movements)

Myoclonic - rapid "shock-like"

Erratic, non-rhythmic

**Body part** 

Level of consciousness

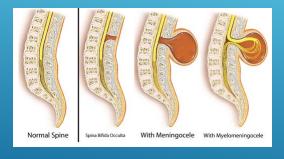
Response to stimulus; Is it extinguishable?

Duration

#### CLINICAL FEATURES OF SEIZURES IN NEWBORNS

Clinical feature	More likely to be seizure	Less likely to be seizure
Abnormality of gaze or eye movement	<b>✓</b>	
Movements are stimulus sensitive		<b>~</b>
Predominant movement	Clonic jerking	Tremor
Movements cease with passive flexion		<b>✓</b>
Autonomic changes	<b>✓</b>	
Body part	Focal	Generalized

#### **MYELOMENINGOCELE**



Place infant prone

Infants born with myelomeningocele (an open lesion) should have a sterile antibiotic solution soaked dressing (Telfa) applied over the lesion.

No Silvadene or Betadine, is to be used.

Potential irritation and drying of exposed neural tissue can destroy CNS tissue in an open wound.

Infants with spina bifida are at high risk for latex allergy. Latex products should be avoided.

#### SUBGALEAL HEMORRHAGE

- · Clinical Manifestations:
- Mean time to diagnosis is 1-6 h after birth.
- Early manifestations: Diffuse swelling of scalp, pallor, hypotonia.
- · Pitting edema
- · Progressive posterior and lateral spread.
- · Periorbital swelling
- · Ecchymosis
- Hypovolemic shock
- · Multiorgan failure,
- · Signs of cerebral irritation



#### **AIRWAY**



#### Nasal Cannula

High Flow Nasal Cannula

- vent stomach with OGT

#### CPAP

- vent stomach with OGT

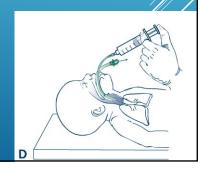
#### Intubation

- Size of ETT
- Measurement at gum or lip
- Blue line to the left

#### LMA Laryngeal Mask Airway

- Will back away slightly when the balloon is inflated
- Cannot suction through it







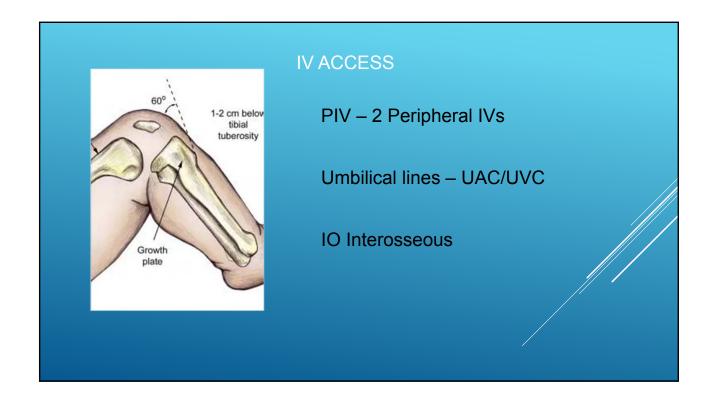
#### **VITAL SIGNS**

The initial call for referral the access center will need a full set of current vital signs

Temp /HR/ Resp/ BP/ Saturation

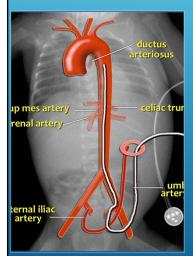
Frequently monitor your infant's vital signs

Make a check of perfusion your standard when assessing an infant



#### **UMBILICAL LINES - UAC**

Umbilical lines must have heparin added to IVF



#### UAC:

Placement T6-T9 or L3-L4

Must be transduced

Air tight system using leurlock connections

Watch for arterial spasm: white, blue, or black discoloration of toes, legs, back. Decreased femoral pulses

#### **Contraindications:**

Evidence of vascular compromise to lower limbs or buttocks

**NEC** - Necrotising enterocolitis

Omphalocele /Gastroschisis

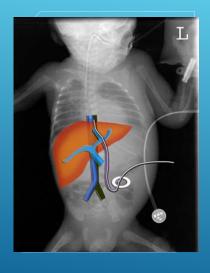
Omphalitis

Caution with IUGR infant

Administration of blood or vassopressors

#### Complications:

Sepsis / Embolisation from air or blood clot / Extravasation / Cardiac tamponade Insertion Of Umbilical Lines (UAC, UVC) Thrombosis, which may involve: Femoral artery – lower limb ischaemia, / Renal artery – hypertension, haematuria, renal failure, mesenteric artery – gut ischaemia, NEC / Hemorrhage due to accidental disconnection



#### **UMBILICAL LINES - UVC**

Umbilical lines must have heparin added to IVF

#### **UVC**:

Placement at the RA and IVC junction – right above the diaphragm

Emergency placement 2-4 cm until blood return: must flush after every medication as non-pulsatile

#### Contraindications:

Omphalocele /Gastroschisis

**Omphalitis** 

#### Complications

Catheter inserted too deep in the right atrium, tip may cross foramen ovale into left atrium

Injury to the liver from infusion of hypertonic solutions



#### **GLUCOSE**

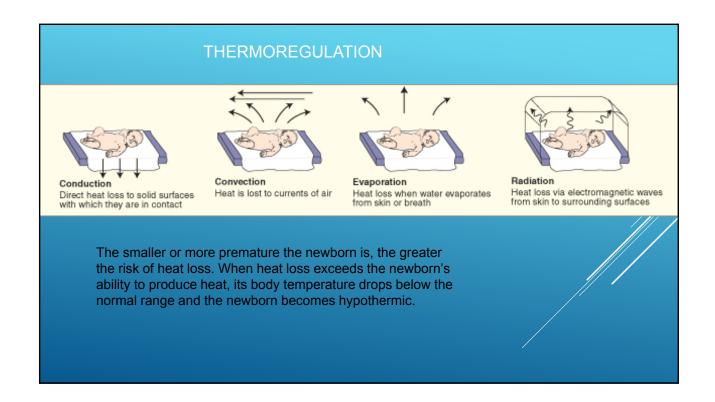
Monitor blood sugar levels closely

If blood sugar levels lower than desired or infant displays signs of hypoglycemia

Increase dextrose concentration
Up to D12.5W in PIV
Up to D15W in UAC
UVC is a central line so can give higher dextrose conc.

**GIR 4-6** 

D10W at 80 ml/kg/day gives a GIR of 5.5 mg/kg/min



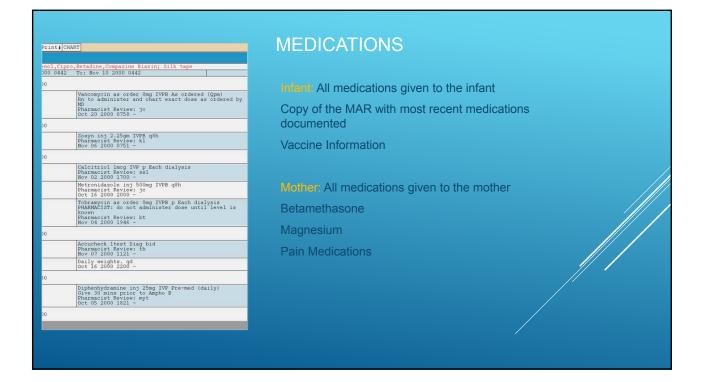
#### Lab work

- Blood gases
- Electrolytes
- ▶ CBC's
- Cultures
- ▶ Glucose / CS
- > NBS

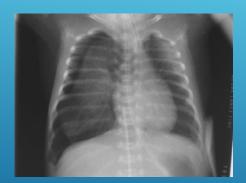
We don't need and cannot take umbilical blood samples

# Abnormal labs that may require transport

- Persistent Hypoglycemia
- > Hyperbilirubinemia
- Polycythemia
- ▶ Hypocalcemia



#### **DIGITAL IMAGING**

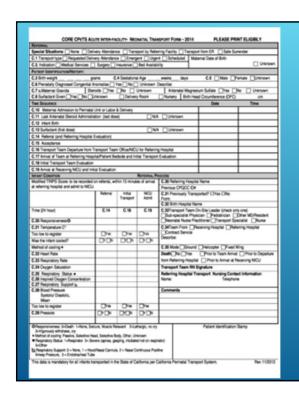


Copies of X-rays

Any Radiology Studies: HUS, MRI, Upper GI, Barium enema

Echocardiograms

# MATERNAL PAPERWORK Maternal history to include any prior medical history Prenatal Labs Medications taken during pregnancy Toxicology reports Labor and Delivery Record



#### **CPETS FORM**

The California Perinatal Transport Systems (**CPeTS**) provides collection and analysis of perinatal and neonatal transport data for regional planning, outreach program development, and outcome analysis

Every infant 28 days or less transferred between hospitals must have one completed



UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital has streamlined the process for transferring, transporting and admitting maternal, neonatal and pediatric patients.

Contact the Access Center at (877) UC-CHILD or (877) 822-4453.

#### The center's services include:

Provides a single point of access 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Connects you with an experienced registered nurse dedicated to this service.

Connects you with a UCSF attending physician as you refer your patient.

Facilitates the transport of patients from home, an emergency department, a community hospital or office.

Simplifies the admission and registration process

# REFERRALS - UCSF ACCESS CENTER



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#### TRANSPORT TEAM COMPOSITION

Neonatal Nurse Practitioner and Dedicated ICN Transport RN

Neonatal and Dedicated ICN Transport RN

2 Dedicated ICN Transport RNs

There may be extra RNs in infant is very critical There may be more team members in training



#### **CONSENT FOR TRANSPORT**

UCSF transport consent for parents

#### If traveling by Rotor or Plane:

- An air company consent for parents
- An air company consent for transferring facility



#### PARENTS ACCOMPANYING PATIENT

#### Depends on:

Crew configuration

Weight of parent and fuel load

Postpartum status

Social situation

Language Barriers

The pilot makes the final call

Taking a parent is never guaranteed





#### REPORT TO UCSF BEDSIDE NURSE

Brief History including gestational age & BW

IV access

IV Fluids

Medications

Feedings and last feed

Social issues



