

UPDATE ON SUNNYBROOK NICU CLOSURE AS OF 1500hrs

March 10, 2007

To clarify the situation in the Sunnybrook
Neo-Natal Intensive Care Unit please be advised of the following points:

- There are currently 28 admitted babies in the NICU, 12 are in isolation and two of these babies have symptoms associated with *Staphylococcus aureus*. The two babies are responding to antibiotic treatment. The other 10 in isolation have tested positive for the bacterium but they do not have symptoms. The 12 babies in isolation are being cared for in a separate area. The remaining 16 babies do not have *Staphylococcus aureus*.
- Total capacity of the NICU is 41 bassinets but there are only 28 admitted patients on the unit.
- To avoid transmission of infection the 12 babies in isolation are being cared for by a separate team of clinicians than the 16 babies who have not been affected.
- Mothers scheduled to deliver in the Sunnybrook Perinatal and Gynaecology program located at Women's College Hospital will be able to deliver as planned. If their babies require NICU care they will be admitted in a separate area of the NICU. The NICU is closed to transfer patients from other hospitals only.
- A special hotline number has been set up for people who have questions about their neonatal or obstetrical care. Please call 416-323-6400 ext 4471 for more information.
- Sunnybrook's NICU is located at 76 Grenville Street in the Women's College Hospital Building but it is part of the Sunnybrook Perinatal and Gynaecology program.
- Each year, the program delivers about 4,000 babies of which about 25 per cent are high-risk deliveries. The NICU cares for about one in five babies born in the province who weigh less than three pounds.

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