



Information to New Parents: Follow-up Care Of Your New Baby

Congratulations on the birth of your newborn baby. We are neonatologists (specialists in newborn medicine). Typically we take care of ill and premature infants in the newborn intensive care unit (NICU) of a hospital. Your pediatrician has chosen us to take care of your healthy baby while he/she is in the hospital. We do not have offices outside the hospital and so it is necessary for you to make an appointment to see your pediatrician at his/her office for a standard follow-up exam of your baby in **1-2 days after discharge. This is especially important because not all abnormalities in newborns can be detected in the first day or two of life.** Thank you for the privilege of taking care of your baby.

You should call your pediatrician sooner or go to an emergency room should your baby appear to have any of the following:

- Fever (temperature of 100.4° F or greater) or low temperature (less than 97° F)
- Blueness of mouth
- Significant jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes)
- Poor feeding
- Difficulty with waking up for feeds
- Excessive crying (baby is not easily consoled)
- Frequent vomiting
- Not having wet diapers
- Bleeding from the circumcision
- Choking spells. Baby appears to have trouble breathing
- Anything else about your baby that makes you very concerned or uncomfortable

In case you cannot reach your pediatrician and you do not think the issue with your baby is an emergency you can reach the neonatal nurse practitioner in the NICU at 678-312-3970 if you have questions.

For advice or answers on routine care of your new baby you can go to the American Academy of Pediatrics website:

<http://www.healthychildren.org/english/ages-stages/baby/Pages/default.aspx>

Sincerely,

The doctors and nurse practitioners of Gwinnett Neonatology

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