

Intrapartum Transfer Protocol for Intended Out-of-Hospital Birth

1. Community midwives will encourage their clients to:
 - pre-register with the Childbirth Center by calling (360) 788-7724 two months prior to their due date
 - take a tour of the St Joseph Hospital Childbirth Center which can be scheduled online (<https://www.peacehealth.org/st-joseph/services/womens-and-childrens-services/childbirth-center/Pages/Tour-the-Childbirth-Center>)
2. The licensed midwife (LM) will call the OB hospitalist directly at (360) 788-6945 to notify the hospital of an incoming transfer. The phone call will include the name and DOB of the patient, reason for transport, relevant clinical background information, the condition of mother and baby, the planned mode of transport, and the expected time of arrival.
3. The hospitalist will then convey this information to the NTL (nurse team lead/charge nurse) who will facilitate a direct admission through Care Connect so that the patient can be brought directly to a labor room upon arrival. *If the hospitalist is too busy to convey information to the NTL, then the hospitalist will request that the LM call the NTL directly.*
4. The LM will provide relevant medical records at the time of transfer which will be placed in the patient's hospital chart. Records may be faxed to (360) 788-6376 or sent electronically to (360) 752-9009 or brought in and photocopied.
5. If possible, the LM will accompany her client to the hospital to facilitate a smooth transfer of care. At the hospital, **prior to initiating care** the OB hospitalist will meet with the LM along with the NTL and the RN assigned to the patient to discuss the patient's care and plan of action. The LM will then introduce the hospital care team to her client. *If a CNM is available and willing to assume management of the patient, the CNM will be included in this huddle as well.****
6. In the event that a CNM is available to assume management of the patient, the OB hospitalist will remain the back up provider should an obstetrician's care become necessary.
7. The hospital care team recognizes the LM as the patient's primary care provider who has an established relationship with the patient. We encourage the LM to join with the hospital care team to provide ongoing support and care of the patient. ***
8. The hospital care providers (OB hospitalist, CNM, Peds hospitalist) will coordinate with the LM a schedule of follow up care for the patient and/or her baby.
9. The LM can request hospital records through Medical Records or review them directly through Care Connect (Epic).

*** As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, there are frequent changes to the visitation policy in the Childbirth Center. During those times when the number of support people a patient may have is restricted to no more than one, patient hand-off between the LM and hospitalist will either need to occur in the lobby or via phone.

Version 4

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