

NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT FACT SHEET

Overview

White Memorial Medical Center has one of the region's only Level III Neo-Natal Intensive Care Units (NICU) for severely sick or premature babies. The caring, bilingual staff focuses on supporting the mother, newborn and family with exceptional care and a singular level of quality and service. The NICU is located in the new specialty care tower, which opened in April 2006. White Memorial is a teaching hospital with a pediatric residency program.

Level III Designation

Under the **Level III** designation, which is set by the American Academy of Pediatrics, White Memorial's neonatal intensive care unit is a subspecialty unit that can care for extremely premature newborns, newborns who are critically ill, or those who require surgical intervention.

Level I, or basic neonatal care, is the minimum requirement for any facility that provides inpatient maternity care. The institution must have the personnel and equipment to perform neonatal resuscitation, evaluate healthy newborn infants and provide postnatal care, and stabilize ill newborn infants until transfer to a facility that provides intensive care. **Level II**, or specialty care nurseries, in addition to providing basic care, can provide care to infants who are moderately ill with problems that are expected to resolve rapidly or infants who are recovering from a serious illness treated in a **Level III** (subspecialty) NICU.

Features of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at White Memorial

- 28 beds
- Larger rooms
- Parent rooming area complete with kitchenette, sleep rooms and lounge with TV/VCR
- State of the art equipment
- Advanced specialty care
- Computerized medical record
- Neonatal Resuscitation Education
- Physician services provided by Board Certified Neonatologists

Excellent Quality Outcomes

- In 2005 White Memorial participated in the annual quality management database for very low birth weight infants conducted by the Vermont Oxford Network. This is one of the most comprehensive and detailed studies of the quality of care provided in neonatal intensive care units throughout the world. It is considered the benchmark database for neonatology, with almost 600 hospitals worldwide participating.
- Overall, the outcomes for White Memorial were favorable when compared to NICUs at other hospitals.
- Specifically, the NICU at White was ranked in the top quartile in the database for death or morbidity, pneumothorax, PVL, severe IVH, coagulase negative staph infection, eye exam and total length of stay.