



## We care about the safety of you and your baby.

We want you and your baby to be safe at all times. One of the best ways to meet this goal is to work with you. Please ask questions and make suggestions.

### **Patient Identification**

Staff will ask **both** your name and your birth date often.

Your and your baby's identification will be checked before medications are given or procedures are done.

### **Prevention of falls**

When you get up, tell your nurse if you are dizzy or drowsy.

Be aware of what is around you. Wet floors, spills or equipment may cause you to slip or fall.

### **Preventing baby falls**

Do not carry your baby in your arms when you are outside your room.

If you bring your baby to bed to feed, make sure that you are not so drowsy that you might fall asleep during or after feeding.

Always return your baby to the bassinette after feeding. This prevents baby falls from adult beds.

### **Your baby's safety**

You and your baby will wear matching identification bands which will be checked often.

Your baby should **never** be left alone.

Never allow a stranger to take your baby. Only allow people with proper identification to take your baby.

The safest place for your baby to sleep is on his back, alone, in a crib or bassinette



Your baby must go home in a car seat.

## **Preventing infection**

Wash your hands often, especially before caring for your baby.

If you have a cough, use a tissue and wash your hands. If you do not have a tissue, cough into your upper sleeve and then wash your hands. To protect you and your baby, ask family and visitors do the same.

Visitors and your own children are welcome during visiting hours unless they have a fever, cough or any other signs of illness.

It is okay to ask staff if they have washed their hands.

## **Medication safety**

Make a list of all medicines that you are taking. This includes prescribed drugs, traditional medicine, over-the-counter products, vitamins and herbal products.

Tell your care provider if you have allergies to medications, food or anything else.

Before you go home, ask if there is anything special that you need to do at home regarding your or your baby's medications.

## **Fire Safety is Important.....**

All hospital buildings and grounds are smoke free; if you are found smoking, you will be asked to stop and may be fined

Hospitals have sensitive smoke and fire alarms. For your safety, fire drills are held on a regular basis

If you hear an alarm, remain in your room with the door closed until further notice

Do not use elevators during a fire alarm

If there is a real fire, you will be escorted from the building by staff

## **It's important to:**

Ask questions if you don't understand something.

Ask a family member to be with you as often as possible.

Ask staff their names and to see their ID if they have not introduced themselves.

Ask why you or your baby is having a test or treatment and when you will get test results.

Ask for an interpreter to help you understand your care and your baby's care.

Tell each new care provider all your health information. Don't assume they already know.

Make a list of questions. Make sure all your questions are answered.

**Approved by Women's Health Program - October 2013**