



NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT (NICU)

Our NICU Team

The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) team consists of: 3 neonatologists, 9 paediatricians, 2 paediatric surgeons and anaesthetists, a paediatric cardiologist and neurologist, 1 clinical nurse leader, 1 clinical nurse educator, 5 charge nurse clinicians plus 4 dedicated teams of experienced RN's.

Other members of the multi-disciplinary team include a clinical pharmacist, occupational therapist, physiotherapist, social worker, laboratory staff, and supporting personnel. Respiratory therapy support is available 24 hour-7 days a week.

The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) team provides care for 22 babies in our nurseries. Our 6-bed tertiary care nursery provides care for extremely low birth weight infants experiencing a range of health complications. The NICU leading edge equipment is updated continuously.



Intermediate/Acute and Convalescent Care Nurseries

We can accommodate 16 babies and the team is proactive in providing evidence-based practice including support of:

- Kangaroo Care
- Early breast feeding
- Developmental care of the neonate
- Co-bedding of multiples
- Neonatal Abstinence Program
- End of life care to babies and families
- Our Neonatal Follow Up Interdisciplinary Team sees specific babies in an outpatient clinic to age 4 1/2 years. The data collected has supported change of practice for improved outcomes for our tiny clients.

As part of the provincial NICU tertiary system, the Victoria General Hospital NICU serves Vancouver Island and accepts transfers from within BC and out-of-province transports via the Infant Transport Team. Victoria has approximately 2700 births per year with approximately 570 NICU admissions per year.

Current Research Studies

- Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)
- Caps Net (project on infants born with Diaphragmatic Hernia and Gastroschisis)
- Sofi (Stepwise oral Feeding in Infants)
- MIPS (Methamphetamine in Pregnancy and Other Substances)
- OLIVIA (Offering Less Invasive Ventilation in Infants 28-32 weeks)
- FSAT- testing of the Fir Squate Assessment Tool for the assessment of neonatal withdrawal
- CAP study (Caffeine for Apnea of Prematurity)