

THE LINCY FOUNDATION NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

IMPORTANT PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS FOR PREMIES' HEALTH

Dignity Health – St. Rose Dominican is committed to reducing the rates of dangerous intraventricular hemorrhage (IVH), necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC), sepsis, and lung issues among babies who are born early, ill or both.

Dr. Deepa Nagar, Medical Director/ Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), is proud of St. Rose's efforts and its transparency. The hospital voluntarily reports its NICU statistics and standards to the Vermont Oxford Exchange, a nonprofit collaborative dedicated to improving the quality and safety of medical care for newborn infants and their families through a coordinated program of research, education, and quality improvement projects. St. Rose also reports the occurrence and outcomes of numerous threats to the health of its tiny, vulnerable patients to MEDNAX Pediatrix.



"We use our data, national data and training techniques to engage our entire team – from admitting clerks to nurses and physicians to respiratory therapists – in making step-by-step improvements that benefit our NICU babies," says Dr. Nagar. Here she shares a few examples of St. Rose's commitment to excellent neonatal intensive care:

Baby Friendly. As Southern Nevada's first Baby Friendly hospital, St. Rose promotes an exclusively human breast-milk diet to help protect premature babies from developing a dangerous intestinal issue called necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC). Breast milk is such powerful medicine that when a NICU mom is unable to nurse her baby, we provide certified donor breast milk and the highest quality nutritional supplements at no additional expense. If this helps prevent just one case of surgical NEC, we spare the family heartache – and we save the family, hospital, and community approximately

\$5 million dollars in healthcare costs. St. Rose has not had a case of NEC in more than three years.

Antibiotic Stewardship. Antibiotics are commonly overprescribed in NICUs. While antibiotics can help fight infections, their overuse can lead to late-onset sepsis, a leading cause of death among premature babies. Through careful monitoring of when to use antibiotics and for how long, St. Rose has one of the nation's lowest rates of late-onset sepsis.

Opioid Intervention. Babies born to women who used opioids during pregnancy are often premature and can suffer devastating symptoms of withdrawal known as Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS). On average, these fragile newborns spend a month in the NICU. We offer babies multiple comfort care measures and provide the Ursula Miller Cuddle Room, an overnight stay room that gives parents home-like experiences in attending to their preemie's needs before the baby is released from the hospital.

Additionally, St. Rose recently received grant funding from the State of Nevada to develop a pilot program to address the needs of pregnant women, new mothers, and newborns.

Support St. Rose Dominican's three-stage plan to remodel all of its Maternal Child Care, NICU, pediatric and pediatric intensive care rooms. To learn how a donation of any size will help, call 702-616-5750 or visit supportstrose.org.



Mother Ilina with baby Valentina