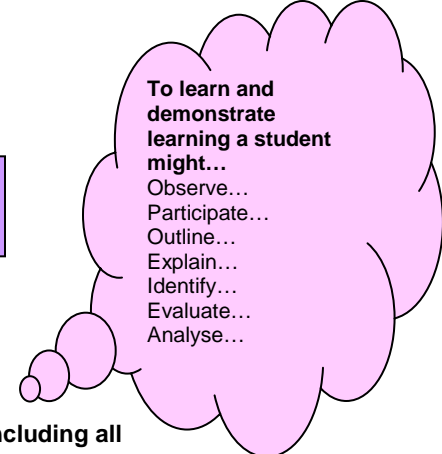


University Maternity Hospital Limerick

Neonatal Unit

Learning Opportunities



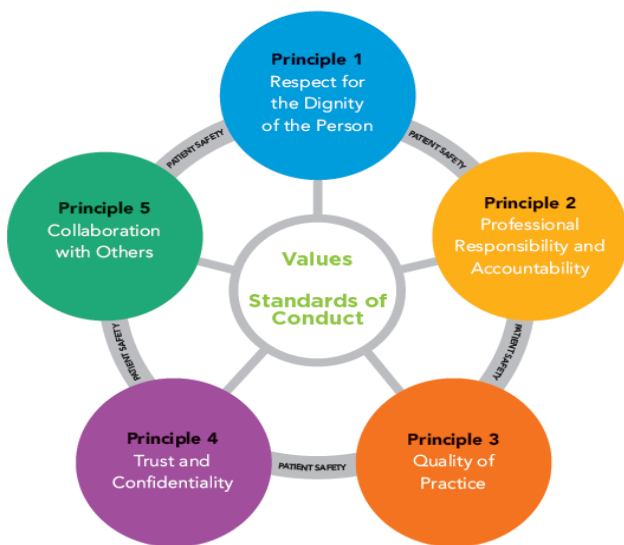
Whilst on placement in the neonatal unit midwifery students will be given the opportunity to do the following:

- Assist with the admission, transfer and discharge of a baby
- Participate in the assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation of care provided to a baby
- To build on your previous experience of caring for well babies in the postnatal and labour ward, perform a detailed examination of a baby in the neonatal unit including all vital observations (for example, temperature, heart rate, respirations)
- Communicate with and support parents in the care of their baby
- Observe the care of a baby in an incubator (low birth weight/ preterm/ critically ill infant)
- Observe the midwife/ nurse caring for a baby on assisted ventilation
- Care for a baby receiving phototherapy
- Observe ultrasound scans being performed
- Participate and support mothers in the skills to initiate and support breastfeeding
- Support mothers who formula feed their babies
- Insert a naso-gastric tube and perform naso- gastric tube feeding

Please use the Competency Document and pocket cards to identify the students learning level

- Participate in the assessment, monitoring and administration of medication and appreciate the role of the midwife/nurse in medication management within the Scope of Practice
- Participate in the care of a baby receiving IV fluids
- Learn how to calculate baby's fluid requirements with the midwife/ nurse
- Participate in neonatal screening procedures
- Care for a baby with congenital anomaly and support the family
- Participate in the care of parents who are bereaved
- Observe the resuscitation of a baby
- Accompany the CMM/ midwife/nurse on ward rounds and multidisciplinary grand rounds
- Attend multidisciplinary meetings e.g case review meetings, perinatal mortality and morbidity meetings
- Outline the measures for infection prevention and control in the Neonatal Unit setting
- Document care provided under supervision

Figure 1: The Five Principles of the Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Registered Nurses and Registered Midwives 2014



The Neonatal Unit is a specialist placement providing unique learning opportunities. Students will need assistance and direct supervision to maximise these learning opportunities.

- Requirement and Standards for the Midwifery Education programme (ABA 2005) (Domains of Midwifery Practice)**
1. Professional/Ethical Practice
 2. Holistic Midwifery Care
 3. Interpersonal Relationships
 4. Organisation and Co-ordination of Midwifery Care
 5. Personal and Professional Development