

## Cleft lip and palate – newborn infant

### Protocol Responsibilities and Authorisation

<b>Department Responsible for Protocol</b>	NICU
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### Protocol Review History

Version	Updated by	Date Updated	Description of Changes
3	Plastics	November 2015	Re-write

## Cleft lip and palate – newborn infant

### 1. Overview

#### 1.1 Purpose

To facilitate the procedures to be followed for infants born with cleft lip and palate.

### 2. Procedure

- 2.1 Send yellow referral form to Regional Coordination Centre (RCC) with all patient details.
- 2.2 RCC will log the referral in iPM from where all required consultations can be made and seen.
- 2.3 Send referral to General Paediatrician (Hamish McCay – Clinical Director)
- 2.4 Ensure hearing screening is undertaken or, where appropriate, formal audiology.
- 2.5 If an urgent opinion is required, contact on-call Plastic Surgery Consultant.
- 2.6 Contact Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) Plastic Surgery or Senior Nurse (for weekends) in E4.
- 2.7 Send yellow referral form to Speech and Language Specialist (SCT) ext. 98882; Fax 94828
- 2.8 If requested by Plastic Team/CNS contact medical photography for clinical photos of cleft lip/palate.
- 2.9 Upon viewing the photos the Orthodontist and Plastic Surgeon may advise that a palatal obturator would be useful:

Orthodontist contracted to Waikato DHB is:

Dr Mark Ewing  
 Ph: 07 839 5870 fax: 07 834 1148  
 email: admin@hamiltonorthodontics.co.nz

If decision made to make an obturator, then Dr Ewing will make the mould of the baby's cleft palate in the Newborn Unit. Dr Ewing requests that this procedure is done in the Newborn Unit for airway safety reasons.

#### CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND PAGERS

Plastics Clinical Nurse Specialist Lynne Walker Ext 95833 021 498 702

### 3. Resources Supplied to Family

- Ensure referral has been received by RCC. The referral will be graded by a Plastic Surgeon and an appointment to combined Cleft Clinic will be made prior to discharge.
- Child Disability Form to be completed by NICU Consultant
- Blue Book – Cleft information (supplied by Lynne Walker CNS Plastics)
- Haberman Bottle/pigeon or a conventional bottle and soft teat for feeding - competence with feeding needs to be established prior to discharge.
- Soft cup feeder for non-suck feeding following surgery.

Doc ID:	2597	Version:	03	Issue Date:	JAN 2016	Review	JAN 2019
Document Owner:	Associate Charge Nurse Manager			Department:	NICU		
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