

Special Care Nurseries

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There have been several reports recommending changes to the current configuration of the Special Care Nurseries within the Women's Health and Child Health Programs at HSC. This includes external reviews and feedback received through accreditations. Specifically, the IMCN (T1 nursery) within Women's is often over crowded and the physical facility is suboptimal. There is also a back-and-forth flow of babies from Women's and Children's, which leads to a lack of continuity of care. Babies are placed at greater risk when known complications exist that will result in the baby requiring care at an NICU level and where the baby is not born within close proximity to an NICU.

With space at Children's Hospital coming vacant after moves to CSRP are completed, an opportunity exists to explore the feasibility of creating a combined NICU to accommodate Level 2 and Level 3 babies minimizing the need for babies to be transferred from Children's back to Women's.

The goal of this project is to develop a proposal to outline the Special Care Nursery requirements within the HSC to meet the needs in the intermediate term (2 to 5 years).