

Home Phototherapy

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Program/Dept: Women's Health/Public Health

Project Manager: Eleanor Suderman

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Currently, newborns identified as being jaundiced are most frequently assessed by nurses in the Intermediate Care Nursery (IMCN) and treated at home with bili-blankets by Public Health Nurses. Their care may involve a Public Health Nurse, their Family Physician or Pediatrician, the Child Health Emergency Department and the IMCN at HSC. Families return frequently with babies to have their blood drawn to monitor levels. The Home Phototherapy service has reached the point whereby the current staffing and physical constraints within the IMCN at the HSC can no longer effectively manage and support this program. The goal of this project is to transfer all aspects of the Home Phototherapy Service from the Women's Health IMCN to the Public Health Program, including assessment, teaching and monitoring. This goal will be achieved in two major phases:

1. Identifying the full impacts (cost, equipment, etc.) of the transfer of the Home Phototherapy Service from HSC Women's IMCN to the Public Health Program
2. Once approval to proceed has been provided, implement the approved changes and conduct a post-implementation evaluation.