

## **PACIFIER GUIDELINE**

Birthplace - University of Minnesota Amplatz Children's Hospital

1. Pacifiers are not to be given out routinely to infants in the Birthplace unless there is a medical indication for use.
2. Pacifier may be given for medical indication only:
  - During phototherapy
  - History of substance abuse in mother, baby with withdrawal symptoms
  - Baby in NICU
  - Painful procedure with sucrose solution- (see 6 below)
3. Pacifiers are not to be given to healthy breastfed infants by health care staff. Parent may supply own pacifier after education given about pacifier use and effect on breastfeeding. Parents of formula fed infants must also supply own pacifier if desired.
4. Parents will be instructed about comfort techniques without pacifier - including finger-sucking, swaddling and skin to skin contact.
5. Information will be given that pacifiers can cause reduced breastmilk supply and difficulty latching in breastfed infants. Pacifier use is not recommended until 1 month of age by the American Academy of Pediatrics.
6. Pacifier may be used during analgesia administration of sucrose solution for painful procedure. The pacifier will be discontinued after the procedure and should not be placed in infant crib unless there is an ongoing medical indication.
7. Pacifiers are stocked in the Pyxis in the 5th floor Birthplace. Pacifier should be signed out and the medical indication for use documented by nursing staff in baby's chart. (medical indication : \_\_\_\_\_) to be documented in section of chart regarding pacifier use.