

Welcome to the Neonatal Follow-up Clinic

The Neonatal Follow-up Clinic is a service provided by the Neonatal Nurseries to care for premature babies born weighing less than 1500 gm (or 3.3 lbs) or before 29 weeks of pregnancy after they leave the hospital.

Other children from the Neonatal Nursery may be referred to the clinic by their doctor because they were very sick at birth or have health problems that could affect their development.

Your child's first clinic visit is on:

(date)

at _____

(time)

What happens at the Neonatal Follow-up Clinic?

The health care team at the clinic assesses your child's health and development, and keeps track of his or her weight, height and head measurements.

After each visit, we will discuss our assessment with you and send a letter to your child's family doctor and/or pediatrician. The letter gives important information on your child to the doctors who provide your child's regular medical care.

When does my child need to visit the clinic?

If your child was born **prematurely**, before 29 weeks of pregnancy, or less than 1500 gm birthweight, the first visit will occur around the time that your baby was due to be born (your "due date"). We follow a premature child's development according to his or her "corrected age". This is counted from the time he or she was due to be born rather than the actual birth date.

The next visits are at 3, 6, 12, 18, and 36 months of corrected age. At the 18 and 36 month visits your child will have a detailed assessment of his or her development using the Bayley Scale of Infant Development (BSID). Each BSID assessment takes approximately 1 to 1-½ hours, and will be followed by your child's regular appointment with a physician or health professional.

Who will care for my child at the clinic?

Depending on your child's needs at the time of his or her visit, you may meet one or more members of our health care team:

Neonatologist

- A pediatrician who specializes in the development, care and problems of the newborn and infant.

Developmental Pediatrician

- A pediatrician who specializes in children's development.

Nurse Practitioner

- An advanced practice nurse with additional education and skills in the care of children and their families.

Allied Health Professionals

- A dietitian, occupational therapist, physiotherapist, or speech language pathologist.

Learners

- As a teaching hospital we provide training for student doctors, nurses and other health professionals. Each student works under the close supervision of a fully trained health professional. With your permission, learners may be involved in your child's care.

Do I need to plan other appointments?

Your child may need to visit other specialists or have tests. Whenever possible, these appointments can be combined with your visit to the Neonatal Follow-up Clinic.

How can I contact the Neonatal Follow-up Clinic?

For questions or concerns about your child, please contact the Clinic Co-ordinator at 905-521-2100, ext. 73764.

For visits or appointments, please contact the Business Clerk at 905-521-2100, ext. 78515.

The clinic is located in 2G, near the red elevators on the second level.