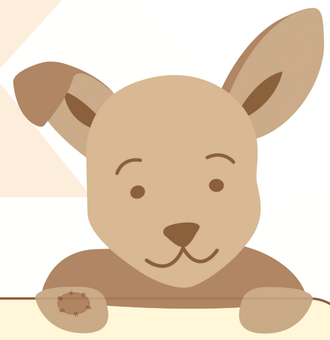
Your Journey Through NNU

Ashford and St. Peter's Hospitals NHS
NHS Foundation Trust



Every baby's journey is unique, and no two experiences are exactly the same. That said, many babies tend to move through the neonatal unit in a similar way. The outline below gives you a general idea of what this might look like. During their stay, your baby may be moved to different nurseries according to their care needs. Please ask a staff member to discuss this with you if you have any questions or want to know more about your baby's journey ahead.

1

Intensive Care Unit (ITU)

This is for babies who need the highest level of support. Often these babies are born preterm or are unwell after birth (including at term).

This room may be busy with lots of people and machines to ensure that your baby is receiving the support they need. It is important that you feel part of the team too and can spend as much time as possible with your baby by their cot, being supported to care for them.

You might have been transferred from your local hospital to our hospital for our neonatal intensive care unit before your baby was born. This is usually because your baby will benefit from this level of care - being born in the right place is safer for your baby.

2

High Dependancy Unit (HDU)

This is for babies who need a moderate level of medical and nursing support.

Sometimes, babies are looked after in HDU from the beginning of their journey, but more often babies move to HDU from ITU when they need less support from staff and less medical equipment.

If you & your baby are not local to us, you are likely to need to repatriate to your local Neonatal Unit at some point in your journey, when your baby is ready. This is to support you being close to your baby, and ensure correct follow up.



3

Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU)

This is for babies who do not need intensive care. Often, babies move here from HDU. The focus here is on supporting babies to grow & learn to feed, with an emphasis on time spent together. There is less monitoring required, fewer machines and fewer staff present all the time so the environment is quieter.

4

Transitional Care Unit (TCU)

This is where you and your baby stay together in hospital - you will care for your baby, with support as needed.

TCU is a positive step, and reflects that your baby is well enough to stay with you, with support from hospital staff.

Some babies born between 34 and 36 weeks' gestation, or babies with mild jaundice or feeding problems may receive support on TCU straight after birth.

If you are re-admitted into hospital after going home, this is where you and your baby may be cared for.
Most babies who have moved through the unit from ITU to HDU to SCBU will go to TC before they go home.







5

HOME!
(with support & monitoring)

