

Navy Medicine Makes Birthing a Family Affair

Military families having babies at Navy treatment facilities will see radical changes from the way previous babies were delivered. Navy Medicine hopes to make birthing a comfortable and wholesome experience for the entire family.

Under the new Family Centered Care Program, changes will be noticeable in almost every facet of the childbirth process, from preconception to postpartum care.

Family concerns will be paramount, as Navy healthcare providers design birth plans that meet the needs of their patients. Mothers, fathers, siblings and other family members will become active, educated participants every step of the way.

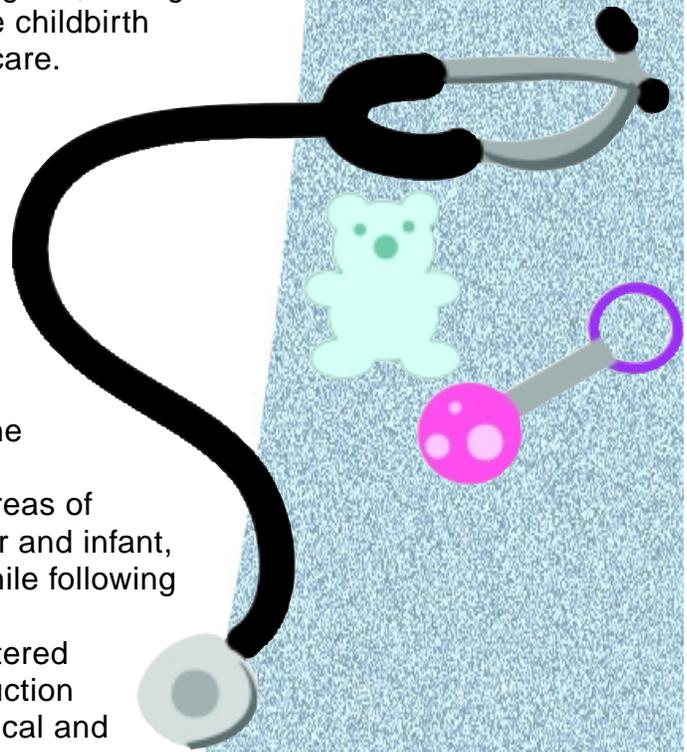
Parents will be assisted in educating themselves about their new baby and his or her care. Families will have a private room throughout labor, with newborns staying in the room with their family after delivery.

Nursing staff will be cross-trained in all areas of childbirth to enable them to care for a mother and infant, and develop a more personal relationship while following a family's progress.

How Navy facilities implement family-centered care will vary depending on budgets, construction and other infrastructure limitations. The medical and family-center practices, though, will be standardized throughout the Navy.

With more than 20,000 babies delivered in Navy facilities each year, this should be welcome news for families and caregivers alike.

For more information on Navy Medicine, go to navymedicine.med.navy.mil, or contact your local MTF.



Captain's Call Kit
Naval Media Center, Bldg. 168
2713 Mitscher Rd., SW
Anacostia Annex, DC 20373-5819
E-mail: pubs@mediacen.navy.mil
DSN 288- or (202) 433-4380
Fax: (202) 433-4747

NAVY
newsstand

www.news.navy.mil