Neonatal Clinical Physiology Laboratory

The Neonatal Clinical Physiology Laboratory (NCPL) is a “point-of-care” facility located in the Intensive Care Nursery. The staff of the NCPL provides the following services on a 24h, 7d basis to the patients in the Intensive Care Nursery:

Blood Tests:

• **pH and blood gas tension measurements**
  - for patients in ICN*
  - at intensive resuscitations (“set-ups”) in the Neonatal Resuscitation Room in the Obstetrical Delivery Suite
  - on umbilical arterial and venous blood from doubly-clamped segment of umbilical cord for all infants born at UCSF

• **Electrolytes (Na⁺, K⁺, Cl⁻, and ionized Ca²⁺)**

• **Hematocrit (Hct, spun)**

• **Hemoximetry** (oxyhemoglobin saturation, total Hgb, Met-Hgb and CO-Hgb)

• **Activated clotting time** (ACT, for ECMO patients only)

*Results for these tests are reported to the infant’s bedside Nurse within 15 min after the sample is obtained.

Other Tests:

• **Neonatal pulmonary function testing** (pulmonary mechanics only). Ask the Neonatology Fellow to request this test.

• **Neonatal hearing screening**: This is done prior to discharge on all ICN and Well Baby Nursery infants. Results are reported in the infant’s chart.

Other services: The staff of the NCPL also is responsible for:

• **Pulse oximetry monitoring**

• **Transcutaneous CO₂ monitoring**

• **Maintaining the ICN Database and the Obstetrical Database**

For any questions about the NCPL, contact Mr. Gene Qin, Supervisor of the NCPL, or Ms. Mureen Schlueter, Manager of the NCPL.

NCPL phone: 353-1755