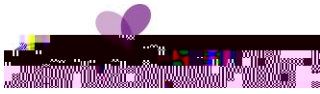


MEDICAL POLICY STATEMENT

Marketplace

Policy Name & Number	Date Effective
Neonatal Discharge Criteria-MP-MM-1411	09/01/2024
Policy Type	
MEDICAL	

Medical Policy Statement prepared by CareSource and its affiliates are derived from literature based on and supported by clinical guidelines, nationally recognized utilization and technology assessment guidelines, other medical management industry standards, and published MCO clinical policy guidelines. Medically necessary services include, but are not limited to, those health care services or supplies that are proper and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of disease, illness, or injury and



A. Subject

Neonatal Discharge Criteria

B. Background

Infants who require neonatal admission remain at increased risk for morbidity and mortality following discharge. These infants require comprehensive discharge planning to ensure a smooth transition from the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) and reduce morbidity and mortality after discharge.

Despite the inability to predict the exact timing of a NICU discharge, discharge planning should begin at NICU admission in an effort to avoid overwhelming parents and hospital staff. This planning will aid in minimizing discharge delays and will promote safe and healthy discharges to home.

Discharge may be appropriate when the establishment of physiologic competencies, including, but not limited to, thermoregulation, feeding, respiratory control, and stability regardless of weight or corrected gestational age, have been achieved.

C. Definitions

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