

**SUBJECT:** PLACENTAS

**OBJECTIVE:** Every placenta will be available to be sent for pathological examination in the event that the neonate develops complications during its first week of life. After that time it can be released to the patient if she so desires.

**POLICY:** All placentas will be stored under refrigeration for seven days following deliveries. After seven days, it can be given to the patient if she desires.

**UTILIZATION OF POLICY:**

- Wipe off the outside of the placenta basin with Vesphene if contaminated with blood and seal lid tightly.
- Write day of the week and date (i.e. Monday 10/9) on the side of the basin with an indelible marker and identify the basin (not lid) with a white sticker addressographed with mother's name or by writing on the basin.
- Do NOT add formalin to basin.
- Place basin in biohazard refrigerator in dirty utility immediately following the delivery.
- Placentas will be stored for 7 days, then discarded in biohazard waste or given to the patient if requested.

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OB-Peds Chairman

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FMC Nurse Manager

EFFECTIVE: 10/9/00

REVIEWED:

REVISED: 10//00, 11/00. 3/11