

GETTING STARTED

All first time parents have anxiety about what they should do and how smooth everything will go.

Please take a deep breath! If you are asked to register your pediatrician's information during your Ob/Gyn visit give our name and phone number. Either **Dr. Himanshu Patel, Dr. Neil Patel, Dr. Deborah Kessous, Dr. Suresh Patel, Dr. Rusheil Patel**. Hospitals can make mistakes and fail to inform us that the baby was born. To avoid this, if you have time, call us and leave a message before going for labor. Also, call us after the baby is born and we will come and visit the baby in the hospital. Normally, nurses will call us in the first few hours and notify us about the newborn. If you do not see my name as the baby's pediatrician, ask the nurse to change it. If any other doctor comes to visit the baby, politely ask for one of us. Also call our office and notify us.

Soon after birth, your baby will receive a special eye medicine (erythromycin) to help prevent eye infection. An injection of Vitamin K is given to the baby to prevent rare bleeding problems that some newborns may develop.

New Jersey State Law requires that all babies be placed in an approved car seat every time they ride in a car (including the first ride home from the hospital). Infants should ride facing the rear of the car and the car seat should be placed in the back seat.

When babies go home from the hospital nursery, everyone wants to see them. A new baby generally gets lots of callers. During the first few weeks, limit your baby's visitors, especially children. The baby needs a little time to build resistance to common infections. You do not know who might have a sore throat, cough, or other infectious conditions. If you have older siblings, maintain strict hygiene when they are around the baby. We also suggest that you keep the baby out of large crowds for a few (at least 6) weeks.

We ask that your newborn baby come for his/her first check-up by the age of two weeks. Should a problem arise before then, we will see your baby in the office earlier. Please call our office as soon as the baby goes home from the hospital for the first appointment.

Your baby's growth and development will be discussed during each visit and a comparison to normal development as well as what to expect in future developments will be discussed.