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Getting To Know and Love Baby

Nursery Helps Parents To Feel Like Parents



WAKE ME WHEN IT'S OVER—Baby Nikia is completely unconcerned about what nurse Marcie Wise is telling her mother, Mrs. Melva B. Scott of Durham, about babies and their care. (Photo by Ina Fried)

By Ina Fried

As mothers by the thousands know, when the baby comes they don't always feel comfortable about it.

New mothers — and fathers — often need some encouragement, some understanding and some guidance to help them develop the maternal and paternal feelings they thought would come automatically.

At the hospital, several methods to help parents get to know, and love, their babies are being used.

Touching and Holding

"Seeing, touching and holding an infant soon after birth help parents form an emotional attachment," said Dr. Roberta Smith, who is unit physician for Duke's Full-term Nursery.

So does learning to sterilize bottles and change diapers, two practical lessons new mothers and fathers can pick up from the nurses.

And if mother gets to go home before the baby can, the Duke people help keep up the emotional ties, even to the point of helping baby send Mom a personalized post card.

First Contact

"The first contact with the new baby takes place in the delivery room unless the mother is under general anesthesia because of a Caesarian section or an emergency delivery," Dr. Smith said.

The father may be present in the delivery room if he has attended childbirth education classes and has received the doctor's permission.

"We're trying much more to be a family-oriented unit," said Kay Hesse, a nurse clinician and patient education coordinator for obstetrical-gynecological patients. "We encourage the family to function together to get to know their baby."

Rooming-In Policy

One way that makes it easier is having the baby in the mother's room. Under Duke's modified rooming-in policy, a baby from the Full-term Nursery remains in the mother's room all day except for two hours in the afternoon when grandparents may see it at the nursery window.

Duke has been a staunch advocate of rooming-in since the beginning of the Nursery Service under Dr. Angus McBryde in the 1930s, Dr. Smith said.

Recent research studies at Case Western Reserve University have found that mothers allowed extensive contact with their newborns showed earlier signs of emotional attachment (looking, smiling, holding close, caressing) than mothers separated from their

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Logistics Next Step for Jarboe, Duke North

Wallace E. Jarboe, the man who has headed up planning and management of the \$92 million Duke Hospital North project since 1971, has been tapped to take on the next big job.

Beginning this week, Jarboe is tackling the task of what is called "logistics and management," which means making sure that everything and everybody are in the right place and functioning when the new hospital opens two and a half years from now.

Jarboe's appointment as director of the new Office of Logistics and Management - Duke North was announced by Dr. Roscoe R. Robinson, associate vice president of the medical center and chief executive officer of Duke Hospital.

"In his new role," Robinson said, "Mr. Jarboe will be responsible for coordinating all of the operations — related planning which is required for an efficient move from Duke Hospital South to Duke Hospital North.

"Planning for the move,"
Robinson added, "will require a
monumental effort on the order of
that performed by the Hospital
Project Management Office (HPMO)

NEW LOOK

The new banner and masthead appearing in Intercom this week are part of an effort to update the appearance of the newspaper. The drawing of the Davison Building should be clearer and more easily recognized. Designs were done by Linda Huff of the university composition shop.



WALLACE E. JARBOE

in getting the new hospital planned and under construction." That office has been under Jarboe's direction since it was organized on Jan. 1, 1974.

Robinson said that since the construction planning stage is essentially finished and all construction contracts will have been let by this fall, the HPMO is being split into two functions and undergoing a name change.

One will be the Office of Logistics and Management which Jarboe will direct from an office in Baker House, and the other will be the Duke North Construction Management Office which will follow through on the actual construction of the building.

Dr. Jane G. Elchlepp, assistant vice president for health affairs in planning and analysis, will assume responsibility for directing the construction management operation which will continue to be housed on the second floor of the Bell Building.

Jarboe's appointment to the new post was effective Sept. 1, one day short of a year after ground was broken for the new hospital.

In gross square footage, the hospital will be about three-quarters the size of the Crabtree Valley Mall in Raleigh. It is scheduled for completion in March of 1979 and will contain 616 beds. The present hospital (to be known as Duke South) will retain 312 beds and the Eye Center will continue to have 39. The three facilities will have a combined total of 1,008 beds, slightly more than 100 over the present hospital capacity.

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TINY TOES—When a new baby has to remain at the hospital after the mother goes home, the nursery staff sometimes uses a postcard to help the baby keep in touch with Mom and Dad. The baby's footprint provides an individualized "signature" for the message about the baby's progress. (Photo by Thad Sparks)