



Thank You

The patient care team at Tanner Women's Care knows that having a baby in the NICU is a stressful time for anyone. We understand how important it is that you continue working toward being a family, even at this difficult time.

Our nurses and physicians are here to work with you, empowering you to engage in your newborn's care and providing the information you need. In turn, we ask for your patience as we work to deliver the best possible care for every patient on the unit.

If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to your baby's nurse or the physician on the unit; we're happy to address your concerns or find you the information you need.

**Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at
Tanner Medical Center/Carrollton**
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Carrollton, GA 30117
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NICU SERVICES AT TANNER MEDICAL CENTER/CARROLLTON

Caring for our community's tiniest patients.

Care for Our Community's Most Fragile Newborns

Deliveries ought to be happy occasions, and with neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) services available at Tanner Medical Center/Carrollton, care is now available close to home for the community's most fragile newborns.

Tanner's NICU is built on more than five decades of clinical research and practice, serving to advance a level of care that gives tiny patients their best chance at a healthy life. The NICU at Tanner Medical Center/Carrollton creates an environment that reduces the risk of infection while providing access to a skilled team of neonatology specialists, pediatricians, specially trained NICU nurses and more.

Designated a Level III NICU, the unit provides a host of services, including:

- ▶ Neonatal incubators, which maintain optimal environmental conditions for newborns, featuring sophisticated climate control and isolation protection from infections
- ▶ Feeding tubes, designed to provide newborns with nutrition support with minimal — if any — discomfort
- ▶ IV lines, used to ensure the safe delivery of fluids and medications as necessary
- ▶ Monitoring equipment to keep close tabs on the baby's vital signs, body temperature and other important metrics
- ▶ Phototherapy, using light for the treatment of jaundice
- ▶ Respiratory services, including surfactant therapy, ventilators and positive-airway support

Who Needs NICU Care?

The NICU at Tanner Medical Center/Carrollton is designed to provide care for west Georgia and east Alabama's most fragile patients, including:

- ▶ Babies born before 32 weeks of gestation
- ▶ Babies born with a critical illness

- ▶ Multiple births
- ▶ Babies who require respiratory support
- ▶ Low-birthweight babies (weighing less than 5.5 pounds)

The NICU services at Tanner are available to support the maternity centers at Tanner Medical Center/Carrollton and Tanner Medical Center/Villa Rica, as well other regional hospitals as necessary. The unit is located alongside the hospital's nursery on the second floor. In the interest of patient safety and privacy, visitation is limited to immediate family of the newborn.

Parenting on the NICU

Despite all the attention your baby is receiving around the clock from the patient care team on the NICU, he or she will need you as well. This remains an important time for bonding, and our team will support you through these difficult first days as a family.

We encourage you to hold, touch, read and sing to your baby as much as possible. Ask questions and make sure you fully understand your newborn's unique care plan, since you're a partner in his or her care as well.

And by all means, take care of yourself, too. We know you want to spend every waking minute you can with your newborn, and your baby's patient care team will support you in doing that. However, it's OK to take a moment for yourself. You're recovering from a delivery, too. At Tanner Medical Center/Carrollton, you can take a stroll on the daylight walking trails on the hospital grounds, grab a treat at Bistro '49 or Tanner Café on the ground floor of the hospital, sit in the serenity garden outside the ICU, take in a Harmony for Healing performance in the John H. Burson III, MD, Atrium, meditate and pray in the Claudette Hayes, MD, Memorial Chapel on the first floor or just stroll around the hospital and admire the art from some of the area's most revered artists.

Visiting the NICU

The NICU at Tanner Medical Center/Carrollton is located alongside the hospital's nursery within the maternity center on the second floor of the hospital.

The NICU services at Tanner are available to support the maternity centers at Tanner Medical Center/Carrollton and Tanner Medical Center/Villa Rica, as well other regional hospitals as necessary. In the interest of patient safety and privacy, visitation is limited to immediate family of the newborn.

When visiting:

Please wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water or use a liberal amount of hand sanitizer from the dispenser outside the unit. Remember, the newborns on the unit have compromised immune systems and are extremely susceptible to infection.

Visitors must be free of infection and illness. Any visitor who feels unwell or who has experienced a cough, fever, runny nose, skin rash, sore throat, vomiting or diarrhea within the past 48 hours should not visit the unit.

Babies on the unit often have very sensitive or underdeveloped respiratory systems; please be mindful of using strong perfumes or colognes and lingering smells such as tobacco smoke that may be on your clothing.

Patient care and safety is the unit's top priority; nursing staff may ask visitors to step away from the unit momentarily to allow them to take report and exchange vital information on the patients' conditions. Please work with us to ensure our staff is delivering uncompromising care.