

Even the Tiniest Texans Receive Care Locally

San Angelo Community Medical Center (SACMC) has provided neonatal intensive care services for years and last year even more babies than ever were able to get local care. SACMC is proud to announce their transfer rate is the lowest in Tom Green County. This is good news for expectant mothers.

SACMC is committed to improving care for even our tiniest Texans, some as small as two pounds. In 2008, almost 100 percent of the babies born at SACMC were able to be cared for locally. This helps parents and babies. It can be a tremendous strain on the families to have the baby require long term treatment out-of-town.

Twenty percent of all births are high risk. Ten percent of the 2,000 babies born in San Angelo each year will benefit from immediate neonatal intensive care. With the neonatologist at SACMC, San Angelo is better prepared to serve the needs of the community.

Neonatal refers to the first 30 days of a newborn's life; incidentally, a neonatologist is a physician who specializes in the care and treatment of newborns during the first 30 days of life. SACMC is the only local medical center with a neonatologist, Jean A. Woodman, M.D., and neonatal nurse practitioner, Jane Derby, RNC, MSN, NNP on medical staff. Neonatologists are key to the care the infant receives. At SACMC, the neonatologist is caring for only newborns in the hospital and doesn't have to balance an additional private practice as a pediatrician would.

Neonatologists have the special training required to evaluate and treat newborns' medical problems. In addition, neonatologists use equipment that is designed specifically for the tiniest patients. If your pediatrician suggests that your baby needs to be evaluated by a neonatologist, you can be assured that your child will receive the best possible medical care. SACMC is the only local hospital to have neonatologists on medical staff.