The Committee on Fetus and Newborn is cognizant of the increased employment of neonatal nurse clinicians in expanded roles to render intensive care to critically ill neonates. The Committee supports the role of these practitioners. In view of the fact that neonatal nurse clinicians are members of a team rendering sophisticated neonatal intensive care, the Committee strongly recommends the following guidelines:

1. Supervision by the physician in charge of the neonatal intensive care unit in the delivery of pediatric medical care.

2. Participation in the delivery of neonatal intensive care as a member of the neonatal team.

3. Specific training in, and a demonstrated ability to perform, skill-related activities prior to the performance of the activities.

4. Coverage by malpractice liability insurance which recognizes the expanded role of the neonatal nurse clinician.

5. Adequate training of the neonatal nurse clinician for the educational component of the neonatal nurse clinician role.

6. Responsibility for obtaining continuing education to update and revise knowledge, skills, and technologic and therapeutic modalities.

7. Documentation of completion of formal education training as a neonatal nurse clinician.

8. Development of the neonatal nurse clinician role so that growth, advancement, and satisfaction can occur.

9. Regulation of the neonatal nurse clinician/house officer ratio so as not to detract from house officer preparation and development.
Neonatal Nurse Clinicians

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