



What to Do Just After Delivery



Observe the fluid after the waters break (or ask mother about it).

If it is yellow or green, then as soon as the head is seen (even before delivery is complete), clean the baby's mouth with a piece of gauze.



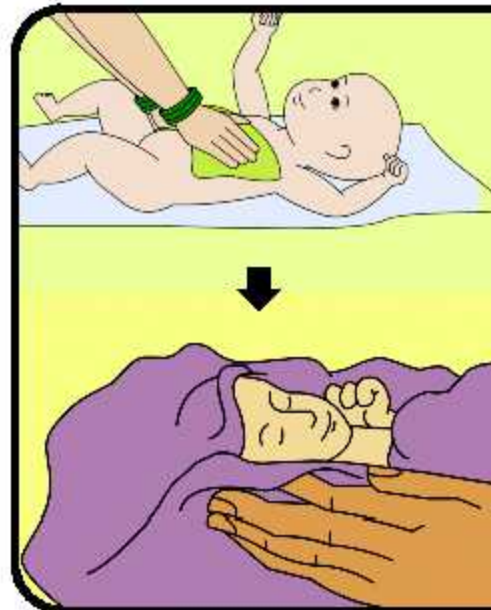
As soon as the baby is born, note the time of birth.

Start counting time, and observe baby at 30 seconds and 5 minutes after birth, so you can record birth outcome.



If there is no cry or a weak cry, or if there is no breathing or weak breathing or gasping, it means the baby is asphyxiated.

Try to help baby, especially if there is no nurse or doctor around.



Immediately after birth, clean the baby with a soft moist cloth; cut and tie the cord; then wrap baby's body and head with a soft dry cloth.

Do not rub off the soft white substance covering the baby.



Put the baby close to the mother's chest and abdomen.

Make sure the room is comfortably warm. The baby may need several layers of clothing or woollen clothing if it is winter.



Weigh the newborn to see if she is normal or has low birth weight; also determine if baby is preterm; check and record temperature.



Encourage mother to start breastfeeding as soon as possible.