

**E**xcitement, concern and anxiety surround the birth of a child. When that child enters an intensive care nursery, those emotions increase. While these feelings are natural, understanding what is happening can ease a lot of the anxiety.



### ***What is the NICU?***

The NICU, or Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, is a nursery specially equipped to care for premature or sick infants. The hospital has certain criteria for being admitted to this nursery. In essence, sick or premature infants that need extra help or attention are admitted.

The sights and sounds of the nursery can be overwhelming to anyone. After a few visits, however, the equipment and machines will become only a backdrop for a special nursery staffed with people uniquely trained to care for each child.



### ***What is a Neonatologist?***

A neonatologist (newborn specialist) is a pediatrician who has additional years of training in the care of premature and sick infants.

As well as providing care for ill neonates in the intensive care unit, the neonatologist may also care for your well baby while your newborn is in the hospital. If you have not yet chosen a pediatrician, or if your pediatrician is out of town, the neonatologist will care for your baby each day until you are discharged. Your obstetrician and pediatrician may also ask the neonatologist to attend your delivery just to make sure your baby does well at the time of transition to breathing air, especially if you deliver via cesarean section.

Between your obstetrician, your pediatrician and your neonatologist, your baby will receive the best care possible.

### ***Meyer E. Dworsky, M.D.***

Originally from North Carolina, Dr. Dworsky went to medical school at the University of North Carolina. From 1977 to 1983, he completed his residency in pediatrics and fellowships in neonatology and infectious diseases at Children's Hospital in Birmingham. Dr. Dworsky is married and has two sons.

### ***Thomas H. Davison, M.D.***

Dr. Davison grew up in Atlanta, Georgia. He attended medical school at the Medical College of Georgia. After finishing his pediatric training at Carolina's Medical Center in Charlotte, North Carolina, Dr. Davison returned to the Medical College of Georgia and completed a fellowship in neonatology. Dr. Davison is married and has two daughters and a son and has been practicing neonatology in Huntsville since 1992.

### ***Zuzana E. Novak, M.D.***

Originally from Slovakia, Dr. Novak came to Huntsville in 2001 after completing her fellowship in neonatology at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. She also completed her residency and internship in pediatrics there. Dr. Novak is a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Medical Association and MASA.

### ***Lee D. Morris, M.D.***

A native of Grenada, Mississippi, Dr. Morris graduated from the University of Mississippi and completed medical school as well as his pediatric residency at The University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson. He then received his neonatology fellowship training at St. Louis Children's Hospital at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri. Dr. Morris and his wife, Abbie, have two sons.



Drs. Dworsky, Davison, Novak and Morris will share in the care of your infant. They, along with your pediatrician, your obstetrician, and you, will work as a team to provide the best possible care for your child. These four physicians have a special interest in caring for sick and premature babies. Every question or concern about your child's care is important. The only way to find the answers to your questions is to ask.