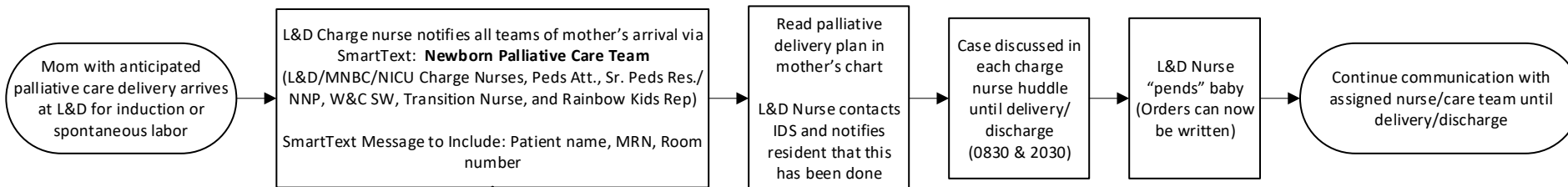
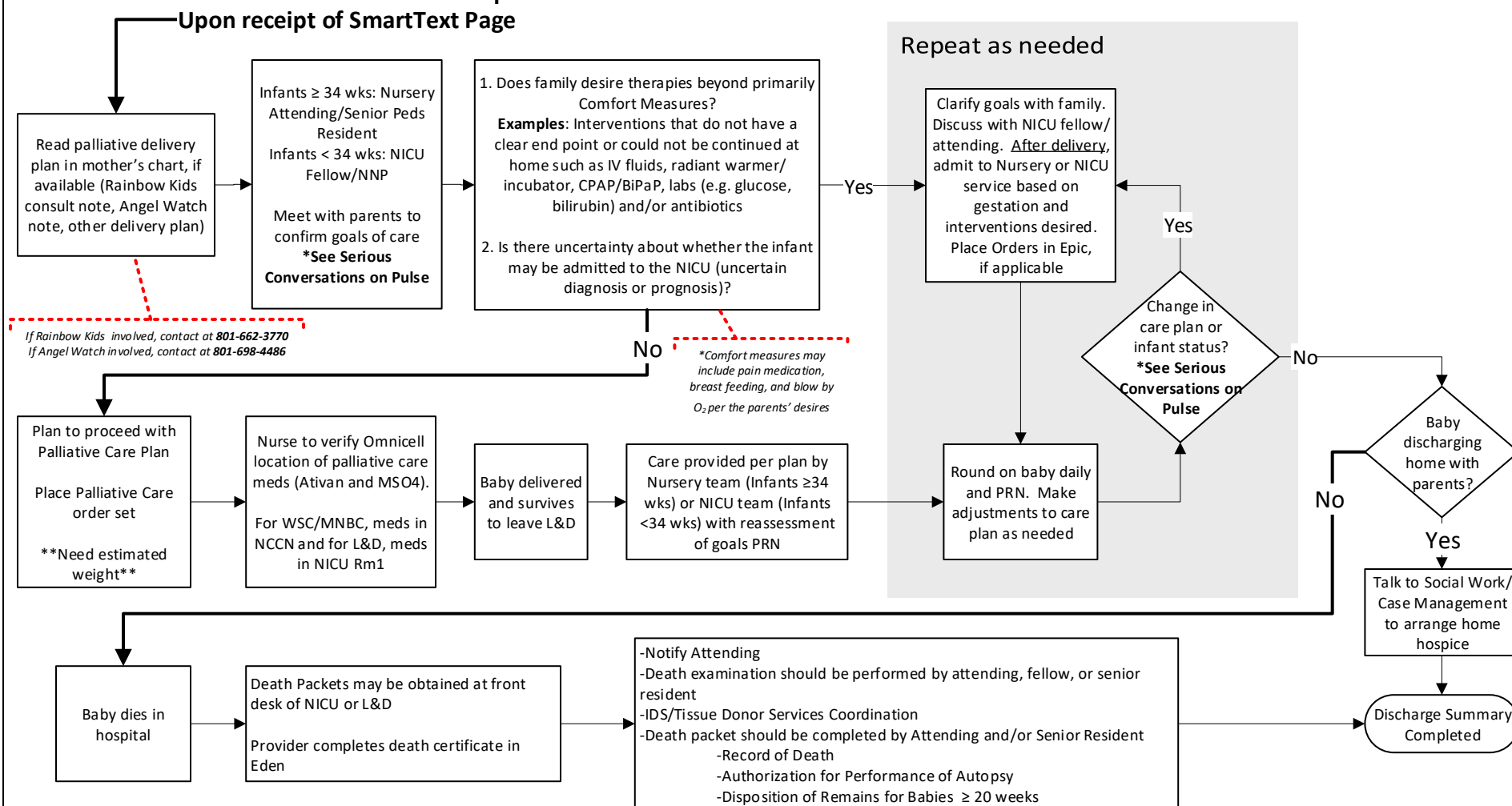


Newborn Palliative Care Pathway

<https://pulse.utah.edu/policies/Lists/Policies/DispForm.aspx?id=11347>
Palliative care will be provided by the Nursery Team* for infants ≥ 34 weeks gestation and by the NICU team for infants < 34 weeks gestation**
*****Infants not expected to survive beyond a few hours after delivery should remain with family in L&D unless parents desire otherwise**

Charge Nurse Team


***Nursery Team: Nursery Attending, Transition Nurse, Sr Peds Resident
NICU Team: NICU Attending, NNP, NICU Nurse


Serious Conversations with Expectant Families: When Resuscitation and Care Plan Defined

as possible, hold discussion in a private place with supportive people there

Introduce Topic:

"I have reviewed your record, including your conversations with _____ (Rainbow Kids, Angel Watch). I know you have been through a lot, but would it be alright if we talk about the care plan?"

Confirming Care Plan:

"I have reviewed your records and it sounds like our plan for delivery is to focus on _____ (comfort, reviving the baby, etc). Did I understand that correctly? I think that is an appropriate and thoughtful plan. Is there anything that has changed?"

Serious Conversations with Expectant Families: Resuscitation and Care Plan Not Previously Defined

Introducing Topic:

"I have reviewed your records and what has gone on since you arrived. I think we need to have a serious discussion. Is there anyone else who should be in the room with us?"

Presenting options:

"This is a difficult discussion and I am here to support you. What have you been told so far about what is going on?"

"In light of what you know (or what I have told you), what are the most important things for us to keep in mind as we take care of your baby?"

"I am going to describe a few possible paths of treatment. There is no right or wrong answer and we have seen caring parents make very different decisions"

"The first path of treatment is to (describe interventions needed with clear, simple language). The second path of treatment is to focus on comfort and support. This would mean we are not doing those other things I just described. It may also mean that your child dies of natural causes."

"Would it be alright if our team made a recommendation?"

"Based on what you've told me, I would recommend (recommendation)"

Talking about Follow Up:

"Is there anyone that you would like me to discuss the care plan with?"

"Our team is available 24/7. Please let us know if you or your family want to talk about this."

"We have partners in the community called "hospice" that can help you be at home. Have you heard of hospice? Is that something you would like more information on?"