



CDH Delivery & NICU Admission Checklist

1. What to Take to the Delivery

CDH requires careful prep to avoid complications—especially gastric distension and barotrauma.

✓ Airway Management

- Intubation supplies (appropriately sized ETTs, stylet, CO₂ detector)
- Functioning laryngoscope with extra blades
- Backup airway (LMA or video laryngoscope, per protocol)
- Pre-assembled ventilator or Neopuff (set to gentle pressures)

✓ Decompression & Suction

- OG or NG tube for immediate gastric decompression
- 10–20 mL syringe for air/gastric aspiration
- Suction setup (low continuous suction)
- Waterproof tape for secure OG/NG placement

✓ Circulatory Access

- Umbilical line start kit (optional, depending on severity and gestational age)

- Emergency IV start supplies
- Umbilical cord clamps and sterile scissors

✓ Other Essentials

- Thermoregulation setup (hat, wrap, warm blankets)
- Prebrief card with CDH-specific roles and considerations
- Medication drawer stocked for resuscitation (epi, saline flushes)
- Documentation sheet ready



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2. What to Have Ready in the NICU

Preparation minimizes delay in critical support during stabilization and post-resuscitation care.

✓ Respiratory Equipment

- High frequency ventilator (set up and tested)
- Conventional ventilator as backup
- Nitric oxide delivery system (if available)
- Blender and oxygen source with air/oxygen calibration
- Low continuous suction system ready
- Humidified circuit and heated flow

✓ Access & Monitoring

- UVC tray and supplies (catheters, sterile field, measuring tape)
- Pre-assembled UAC setup (if center protocol uses both)
- Replogle or sump tube (appropriately sized)
- Transcutaneous CO₂ monitor (if available)
- Pre/post-ductal pulse ox probes
- Blood pressure cuff (appropriate size)
- NIRS if using cerebral/renal monitoring

✓ Medications & Fluids

- Fentanyl or morphine (for sedation and comfort)
- Vasopressors or pulmonary vasodilators per protocol
- iNO or sildenafil (if indicated)
- IVF or D10W with protein

✓ Environment & Documentation

- Servo-controlled radiant warmer on and calibrated
- Noise and light minimized (neuroprotective measures)
- Parent education materials printed and available

