

# Skills Competency



## Skin-to-skin care for all infants and parents

Competency 6 and Step 4 address immediate and uninterrupted skin-to-skin. The following are the performance indicators that measure the staff competency or ability:

Explain at least 3 reasons why immediate and uninterrupted skin-to-skin is important for the mother.	Explain at least 3 reasons why immediate and uninterrupted skin-to-skin is important for the infant.	Demonstrate at least 3 points of how to routinely implement immediate, uninterrupted and safe skin-to-skin between mother and infant, regardless of method of birth.
Demonstrate at least 3 safety aspects to assess when mother and baby are skin-to-skin during the first 2 hours postpartum, regardless of method of birth.	List at least 3 reasons why skin-to-skin should NOT be interrupted.	Explain at least 2 reasons when skin-to-skin could be interrupted for medically justifiable reasons.

Skills displayed	Yes/No	K, S, A	Supervisor's comments
<b>Prepared for the consultation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can list all topics to be discussed</li> <li>Gathered teaching aids</li> <li>Reviewed mother's/parent's relevant obstetric notes</li> </ul>			
<b>Established rapport</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduced self and supervisor</li> <li>Explained reason for communication</li> <li>Asked permission to continue</li> </ul>			
<b>Ascertained mother's/parent's knowledge and feelings about skin-to-skin contact using:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>open questioning</li> <li>reflective listening</li> <li>reflected feelings</li> </ul>			
<b>Built on self-confidence by:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>acceptance of their knowledge and attitudes</li> <li>praising what was right.</li> <li>providing new information using simple language.</li> <li>offering opportunities for questions</li> </ul>			
<b>Confirmed the mother's/parent's understanding using:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>open questions about information given</li> <li>reflective listening and clarified answers provided</li> </ul>			
<b>Ensured mother/parent had sufficient information about skin-to-skin contact</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Covered ALL information on Checklist, sharing evidence-based information accurately</li> </ul>			
<b>Completed documentation as appropriate</b>			

*Knowledge – what to do; Skills – how to apply Knowledge; Attitude – Know when to apply skills within an appropriate ethical framework*

