



Newborn Screening News

Summer 2020

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Newborn Screening Follow-up Program works together with the State Newborn Screening Laboratory and coordinating centers to find and treat infants who need early medical care.



NBS Quarterly Reports and Stellar Performance

During the first quarter of 2020, two hospitals met all six of the NBS performance goals. We would like to congratulate the following hospitals on their impressive efforts!

- Holland Hospital—SCN
- McLaren Port Huron—SCN

Performance Goals for NBS Quarterly Reports

1. Less than 2 percent of screens are collected >36 hours after birth
2. Greater than 90 percent of screens arrive in the state laboratory by the appropriate day
3. Less than 1 percent of screens are unsatisfactory
4. Greater than 95 percent of electronic birth certificates have the NBS card number recorded
5. Greater than 90 percent of specimens have a returned BioTrust for Health consent form that is completed appropriately
6. Greater than 90 percent of newborns with a dried blood spot have pulse oximetry screening results reported

We hope you will be able to use information in the quarterly reports to improve your part of the NBS system. If you have any questions, please call the NBS Follow-up Program at 517-335-4181.

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Staff Highlight: New Quality Assurance Specialist

After serving as the quality assurance specialist with the Newborn Screening Program for many years, Karen Andruszewski has retired. We wish her all the best in retirement and cannot thank her enough for her dedication and commitment to ensuring the best outcomes for Michigan newborns!

We are delighted to introduce our new quality assurance specialist, Angie Aldrich. Angie has a nursing degree from the University of Michigan and a Master of Science Degree in Nursing from Spring Arbor University. Angie has spent the last ten years at the Jackson County Health Department, first as a home visiting nurse in the Maternal Infant Health Program and later as the director of Personal and Preventative Health. Angie is a fantastic addition to our team and looks forward to working with hospital staff involved in the newborn screening process. Welcome, Angie!

Changes to Critical Congenital Heart Disease (CCHD) Follow-up

Due to COVID-19, most of the NBS staff is working remotely. As a result, the NBS program has made changes to the CCHD failed screen follow-up. If you receive a CCHD failed screen follow-up fax, and have the ability to respond to the fax using a secure email, that is the preferred method. This will allow for the most timely follow-up. If you have any questions, please email Kristen Thompson at thompsonk23@michigan.gov. Thank you for your patience during this time.

NBS Follow-up Program Contact Information

Phone: 517-335-4181

Email: newbornscreening@michigan.gov



Highlights of Some Recent Changes to the NBS Card

Most of you have noticed that the NBS cards you are using have a new design. One important change can be found above where you would enter the mother's information.

These bullets are to be used if the baby is not going to be released to the care of the mother. When this happens, please enter the guardian information where you would normally write the mother's information.

Another change you will have noticed is the addition of a notes field in the lower right-hand corner. You can use this area to provide information that the NBS Program should know, such as why the screen was collected early, the name of the receiving hospital if the baby is to be transferred, a sibling who was diagnosed with a disorder through NBS, a newborn with meconium ileus, et cetera. If the baby is not being released to the care of the mother, write the mother's name here as it will appear on the baby's birth certificate, such as Jane Smith or Jane Doe. This helps the NBS Program locate potentially missed screens. Please **do not** use this field for information that will not affect NBS results, such as the mother's illicit drug use.

NEW: A Discharge Form for Hospitals

We have revised the Hospital Discharge Sheet for hospitals that would like to use it to send the Follow-up Program updated information on an infant.

The most common use for this form is for the birth hospital to send updated primary care information for the infant and guardian or adoptive parent information. Sometimes this information is not known at the time of the collection, and sending the card should not be delayed due to waiting on this information.

In cases where the infant transfers to an NICU, this form can be used to provide the name of the NICU. This would be especially helpful in those rare instances where a newborn screen cannot be collected before transfer.

There is space at the bottom of this form where you can report additional information such as: Parent would not permit collection of the newborn screening, sibling has cystic fibrosis, etc. This form can be found in Appendix 7 of the Newborn Screening Guide for Hospitals.

Expired Cards

Please check your inventory for first and repeat sample cards that are due to expire in November 2020 and use those cards first. The expiration date is located in the lower right-hand corner of the NBS card and does not have any shading around it. Cards with a November 2020 expiration date may be used through November 30, 2020.

Unused expired cards can be returned for replacement by completing the "Newborn Screening Card Replacement Form". This form can be found in Appendix 6 of the Newborn Screening Guide for Hospitals. Samples collected after the expiration date will be found unsatisfactory and a repeat screen will be requested.

Safe Delivery of Newborns

Safe Delivery is a law that allows a parent or parents to safely, legally, and confidentially surrender their newborn no more than three days old (72 hours). A newborn may be surrendered to a uniformed employee who is inside and on duty at any hospital, fire department, police station, or to an emergency medical technician or paramedic when responding to a 9-1-1 call. The newborn will then be placed for adoption. To date, over 250 newborns have been safely surrendered in Michigan since the law was enacted on January 1, 2001.

Completing the Newborn Screening Card for Surrendered Newborns

- ◇ The newborn's name will be listed as Baby Doe, even if the surrendering parent(s) offer a name for the newborn or the surrendering parent(s) name is known.
- ◇ If the birth date for the newborn is not known, use the surrender date and time.
- ◇ The Child Placing Agency/Adoption Agency that takes the newborn into custody should be listed under the Mother's Name and the Mother's Address.

Resources for Hospitals

- Safe Delivery of Newborns website, Michigan.gov/SafeDelivery
- Toll-free, 24/7 Safe Delivery Hotline 1-866-733-7733
- Free Safe Delivery materials available for order through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Clearinghouse, healthymichigan.com/
 - Poster
 - Brochure
 - Fact Sheet
 - Window Decal for Safe Delivery Sites (hospitals, fire departments, police stations, and ambulances)



Additional Information, Ordering Metal Safe Delivery Site Signs, Questions and Trainings

Please contact the Safe Delivery of Newborns Program at MDHHS-SafeDeliveryProgram@michigan.gov.

NBS YouTube Video

Recently, the NBS Program developed a YouTube video animating the NBS infographic. The video uses an easy-to-follow roadmap timeline to describe what happens at each event throughout the newborn screening process. Due to COVID-19, many hospitals are not doing in-person hospital tours. The YouTube video is a great resource to provide parents with as part of a virtual hospital tour or birth education class so that expecting mothers will be informed and prepared for newborn screening upon arriving to the hospital. You can find the video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c1w2Vow9UUo&feature=youtu.be>.



Electronic Birth Certificates

The State of Michigan is in the process of rolling out VERA – the Vital Events Registration Application – to be used to register birth occurrences in Michigan.

What is VERA?

VERA is a web-based computer application designed to assist hospitals and midwives in meeting registration deadlines as set by Michigan law for reporting births; and meets reporting standards as set by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). VERA has automated processing of vital records data to downstream recipients including Newborn Screening, Medicaid, Immunization, Hearing Screening, Social Security Administration, Local Vital Records Offices and the CDC. VERA is accessible with single sign-on through MILogin.

Who is responsible for filing the certificate?

MCL 333.2822 sets forth the order of priority for preparing and filing birth certificates. When a physician or other licensed medical professional in attendance at or immediately following a live birth, he/she must prepare and file a birth certificate.

Is training available?

Yes! We currently have training available. Please visit our website www.MichiganVERA.org and look for the training tab.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact us at MDHHS-VR-Registration@Michigan.gov.

Upcoming Holiday Courier Schedule:

Lower Peninsula Hospitals:

Monday, September 7, 2020 – holiday/Sunday schedule
Tuesday, November 10, 2020 – holiday/Sunday schedule
Wednesday, November 11, 2020 – holiday/Sunday schedule
Thursday, November 26, 2020 – holiday/Sunday schedule
Friday, November 27, 2020 – holiday/Sunday schedule

Upper Peninsula Hospitals:

Monday, September 7, 2020 – no UPS pickup
Thursday, November 26, 2020 – no UPS pickup
Friday, November 27, 2020 – **UPS will pick up**



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Lois Turbett, NBS nurse consultant, is available to work with staff in any hospital that requests help with specimen collection. She can be reached toll-free at 866-673-9939 or by email at turbettl@michigan.gov to answer your questions. Kristen Thompson, NBS Coordinator, is also available to work with hospitals on CCHD pulse oximetry screening and reporting and can be reached at thompsonk23@michigan.gov. Together we can achieve our goal that all children diagnosed through newborn screening receive prompt and careful treatment in order to live the healthiest lives possible.

Please remember to share the quarterly newsletter with staff!

If you have questions please contact the NBS Follow-up Program at 517-335-4181 or newbornscreening@michigan.gov or visit our website at Michigan.gov/NewbornScreening