



Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

To: All EMS Agencies and Medical Control Authorities

From: Kathy Wahl, Director Division of EMS and Trauma

**Subject: Removal of Infant Warming Mattress and Interim Guidelines for Maintaining Temperature of a Newborn**

It has come to our attention that there are significant concerns over the infant warming pads that were issued. Out of an abundance of caution, all agencies are instructed to immediately remove the infant warming pads. Do not use these pads.

It remains critical that newborns are kept as warm as possible after birth to prevent additional medical complications. The following steps should be taken to keep infants born in the pre-hospital setting warm and safe until arrival at the hospital.

- Gently dry the baby with clean dry blankets or towels
- Place the lined infant cap on the baby's head
- Place the baby skin to skin against the mother and cover them with a blanket (do not cover the infant's face) until transport
- Turn the heat on high in the patient compartment of the ambulance
- When ready to transport, make sure the baby is appropriately secured for transport and covered with the reflective blanket to keep the baby warm.
- When removing the baby from the ambulance, ensure that the baby remains covered and warm. Resume skin to skin contact with the mother if possible.

A State Protocol will be issued in accordance with the new guidelines.



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