

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES



CHANGES TO REGULATIONS

7 AAC 27. Newborn Hearing Screening and Treatment of Newborns' Eyes



FILED REGULATIONS

Incorporating Changes Made by the Department of Law

Effective: January 17, 2008

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Title 7. Health and Social Services.

The lead-in language of 7 AAC 27.111(a) is amended to read:

(a) Each infant born in this state [ALASKA] must have administered to the infant [HIM OR HER] by a physician, nurse, or certified direct-entry midwife, one of the following prophylactic measures within two hours [ONE HOUR] after birth onto the inside surface of the infant's lower eyelids:

...

7 AAC 27.111(c) is amended to read:

(c) A physician, nurse, or certified direct-entry midwife who detects gonorrhea infection of the eye in a newborn infant shall report the infant's name, birth date [BIRTHDATE], extent of infection, and place of residence to the [COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL] Section of Epidemiology within the department [DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES]. (Eff. 5/3/80, Register 74; am 1/17/2008, Register 185)

Authority: AS 18.05.040

7 AAC 27 is amended by adding new sections to read:

Article 11. Newborn Hearing Screening.

Section

(4) a description of the methods and equipment to be used to conduct the screening, including readily available backup equipment in the event of an equipment malfunction;

(5) a description of infection control procedures;

(6) samples of information to be provided to a parent about screening, including information about screening procedures, the potential risks of hearing loss, and the benefits of early detection and intervention;

(7) the procedures for documenting the results of the screening;

(8) the procedure for communicating to the parent and primary care provider and reporting to the department

(A) a determination by screening that the newborn or infant may have a hearing impairment;

(B) an unsuccessful screening; or

(C) a missed screening;

(9) a description of the training and supervision of individuals responsible for informing a parent of the screening results;

(10) the procedure for ensuring that a newborn or infant who had an unsuccessful screening or who missed a screening will receive a screening; and

(11) if a newborn or infant, as determined by screening, may have a hearing impairment, the procedure for ensuring that the parent receives information about follow-up care

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and a referral for confirmatory diagnostic evaluation to be completed before the newborn or infant is 90 days of age.

(b) Any of the following individuals may perform a hearing screening using the protocol in (a) of this section:

- (1) a physician licensed under AS 08.64;
- (2) an audiologist licensed under AS 08.11;
- (3) a registered nurse licensed under AS 08.68 and trained to perform hearing screening;
- (4) a physician assistant licensed under AS 08.64;
- (5) a hospital technician or hospital volunteer, if that individual
 - (A) is trained by a physician described in (1) of this subsection, a registered nurse described in (3) of this subsection, or a physician assistant described in (4) of this subsection to perform hearing screening; and
 - (B) performs hearing screening under the supervision of a physician described in (1) of this subsection, a registered nurse described in (3) of this subsection, or a physician assistant described in (4) of this subsection;
- (6) a federal employee working in a tribal health facility that is exempt from state licensure and who is a health care provider authorized to perform hearing screening; in this paragraph, "tribal health facility" means a facility owned and operated by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service, or a facility owned and operated by a tribal organization, as defined in 25 U.S.C. 450b(*I*), under a funding agreement

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under 25 U.S.C. 458aaa-4 (Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act and Tribal Self-Governance Amendments of 2000). (Eff. 1/17/2008, Register 185)

Authority: AS 18.05.040 AS 47.20.300 AS 47.20.310

7 AAC 27.620. Reporting requirements. (a) The information that is required to be reported under AS 47.20.320, with respect to a hearing screening,

(1) must be reported at least weekly, using the reporting and tracking system developed by the department; and

(2) includes

- (A) the name of the child;
- (B) the child's date of birth and gender;
- (C) the identifier for the facility where the child was born;
- (D) the identifier for the facility where the child was screened, if that

facility is not the facility where the child was born;

- (E) the name of the child's mother;
- (F) the name of the primary care provider;
- (G) demographic information;
- (H) the child's risk factors for hearing loss;
- (I) the results of the hearing screening;

(J) if the hearing screening was not completed, the status of the screening; if the parent objected to the screening as provided under AS 47.20.310(g), a copy of the signed statement of refusal must be included; and

(K) any additional information that the department considers necessary to match the results or status of newborn metabolic disorder screening conducted under 7 AAC 27.510 - 7 AAC 27.580 with the appropriate child reported under the newborn hearing screening program.

(b) The information that is required to be reported under AS 47.20.320, with respect to audiological confirmatory evaluation and diagnostic services for newborns and infants whose hearing was screened under AS 47.20.310,

(1) must be reported at least monthly, using the reporting and tracking system developed by the department; and

(2) includes

(A) the name of the child;

(B) the child's date of birth and gender;

(C) the name of the audiologist who provided the services;

(D) the date and results of the audiology assessment; and

(E) recommendations for follow-up care, including any referral for early intervention services. (Eff. 1/17/2008, Register 185)

Authority: AS 18.05.040 AS 47.20.310 AS 47.20.320
AS 47.20.300

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7 AAC 27.629. Definition. In 7 AAC 27.600 - 7 AAC 27.629, "primary care provider" means a licensed physician, advanced nurse practitioner, or physician assistant who is the primary source of health care for the infant, or a primary community health aide who is the primary source of health care for the infant. In this section, "primary community health aide" has the meaning given in AS 18.28.100. (Eff. 1/17/2008, Register 185)

Authority: AS 18.05.040 AS 47.20.310 AS 47.20.320
 AS 47.20.300