

Area: Pregnant Women

Subject: PW06 - Pregnant Women - Postpartum Visits/Post-natal Transition Planning

Reference: 45CFR304(i)(6)

Policy: SCOE and Delegate Staff are required to visit the newborn within two weeks after birth to ensure the well being of the mother and child.

Procedure:

1. A minimum of 30 days prior to expected delivery date, notify nurse through COPA referral or SCOE email about impending delivery date and set tentative post-partum visit.
2. Notify nurse immediately if there are signs of pre-term labor, bed rest, or changes to circumstances regarding delivery.
3. Upon the birth of the newborn, the Child Care Specialist (CCS)/Home Based Educator (HBE) will notify the nurse through a COPA referral or SCOE email.
4. Within two weeks of the child's birth, the CCS/HBE and the assigned nurse will coordinate schedules and set up a post-partum home visit to assess and gather the following health information:
 - a. For the **newborn**: birth weight and length, gestational age at time of delivery, any injuries, illnesses or special needs, identification of medical care home and/or any pending medical visits, and overall activity level/sleeping patterns of infant will be reviewed.
 - b. For the **mother**: delivery type and location, length of hospital stay, emotional and physical status, feeding questions/concerns and any parenting issues will be reviewed.
5. The nurse will document the information of the home visit on the Newborn Health Visit form.
6. At the time of the 2-week visit:
 - a. If the nurse has concerns regarding the state of the mother's emotional health, the Patient Health Questionnaire: Depression Screening (PQH-9) is completed right then. The nurse will collaborate with the CCS/HBE working with the family to make appropriate referrals based on type and/or severity of the mother's emotional stability. Refer to procedure HS45.
 - b. If the nurse has a concern with the state of the newborn's health, a case management request will be sent to the Home Based Supervisor.

Supervised by: Home Based Supervisor

Performed by: Child Care Specialist, Home Based Educators, Head Start Nurse

Forms needed: Newborn Health Visit, Child Success Team Request, Case Conference Documentation, Patient Health Questionnaire: Depression Screening (PQH-9) (as needed)

Frequency: Within 2 weeks of infant's birth