



NMS Program Clinical Policy Suite quick reference

The Newborn Metabolic Screening (NMS) Program clinical policy suite sets out the responsibilities and expectations for all staff involved in providing newborn blood spot screening services.

With a focus on quality of care and patient safety, the NMS Program clinical policy suite provides an integrated and coordinated approach to delivering the NMS Program. The NMS Program clinical policy suite will result in consistent and evidence-informed newborn blood spot screening practices across the province, helping staff to screen every infant, every time.

What is the NMS Program clinical policy suite?

The NMS Program clinical policy suite is a collection of five governance documents that set out the responsibilities and expectations for the delivery of an integrated and coordinated NMS Program offered to all infants born in Alberta.

It is

- evidence-informed
- based on the AHS Governance Document Framework
- a level one policy (highest level of AHS policy)

Why is the NMS Program clinical policy suite important?

The NMS Program clinical policy suite is important to make sure that all services provided within the NMS Program are delivered consistently using an integrated and coordinated approach across the province. It also makes sure that the standards, sub-standards and responsibilities in the *Alberta Newborn Metabolic Screening Program Policy Document* (2010 NMS policy document) are met.

How is the NMS Program clinical policy suite used?

Staff use the NMS Program clinical policy suite to follow the minimum requirements for providing services along the newborn blood spot screening pathway. The emphasis is on *what* services need to be delivered and also *when* and *why* they need to be delivered. Often, clinical details are left to the discretion of the zone, facility, unit or most responsible health practitioner (usually a nurse) providing newborn blood spot screening services.

What does NMS Program clinical policy suite cover?





















The NMS Program clinical policy suite consists of the

Document	Objectives	Staff Education Resource
NMS Program Policy	to provide an integrated and coordinated approach to delivering NMS Program services to all infants born in Alberta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of Alberta's NMS Program summary Walking Along the Newborn Blood Spot Screening Pathway essentials Enhancing the NMS Program essentials Getting it Right Every Time essentials










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NMS Program Policy	to provide an integrated and coordinated approach to delivering NMS Program services to all infants born in Alberta	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Talking with Parents summary  Using the Parent Information Sheets essentials  Collecting summary  Collecting the Blood Spots essentials  Drying & Transportation essentials  Following Up summary
Newborn Blood Spot Screening Sample Collection Procedure	<p>to outline the procedure to be followed when collecting the sample</p> <p>to ensure the initial sample is collected between 24 and 72 hours of age and as close to 24 hours as possible</p> <p>to ensure every effort is made to collect the initial sample at the birth facility prior to discharge or transfer</p> <p>to ensure collection of the sample is not delayed in sick or preterm infants, regardless of feeding practices, unless there is a physician refusal for clinical reasons</p> <p>to ensure consistent accommodation of special circumstances related to sample collection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Overview of Alberta's NMS Program summary  Walking Along the Newborn Blood Spot Screening Pathway essentials  Getting it Right Every Time essentials  Talking with Parents summary  Using the Parent Information Sheets essentials  Special Situations when Talking with Parents essentials  Parent Refusal essentials  Collecting summary  Filling out the Blood Spot Card essentials  Collecting the Blood Spots essentials  Getting Great Blood Spots essentials  Drying & Transportation essentials  Special Situations when Collecting essentials  NICU essentials



Document	Objectives	Staff Education Resource
Newborn Blood Spot Screening Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Guideline	<p>to outline a recommended course of action when collecting a sample or repeat sample for infants in a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) or special care nursery</p> <p>to ensure a sample is collected for infants in a NICU or special care nursery between 24 and 72 hours and as close to 24 hours as possible</p> <p>to ensure sample collection for infants in a NICU or special care nursery is not delayed in sick or preterm infants, regardless of feeding practices, unless there is a physician refusal for clinical reasons</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  NICU essentials  Special Situations when Following Up essentials
Newborn Blood Spot Screening Follow-up Procedure	<p>to outline the procedure to be followed when follow-up is required within the NMS Program</p> <p>to ensure follow-up communication and actions occur in a timely manner and are monitored for completion</p> <p>to ensure consistent accommodation of special circumstances related to follow-up within the NMS Program</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Following Up summary  Following Up on Infants essentials  Special Situations when Following Up essentials  NICU essentials
Newborn Blood Spot Screening Contacting Parents or Guardians Guideline	<p>to outline a reasonable number and sequence of attempts to contact the parent or guardian of an infant when a sample collection is required</p> <p>to ensure every effort is made to collect the sample within 96 hours of receiving communication that a sample collection is required</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Finding the Family essentials

How is the NMS Program clinical policy suite accessed?

The NMS Program clinical policy suite can be accessed through and printed from www.ahs.ca/newbornscreening

