



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
Bureau of Health Care Safety and Quality  
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TO: Chief Executive Officers, Maternity Hospitals and Birthing Centers

FROM: Madeleine Biondolillo, MD, Director, Bureau of Health Care Safety and Quality

CC: Marlene Anderka, ScD, MPH, Director, Massachusetts Center for Birth Defects Research and Prevention  
Ron Benham, Director, Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition

DATE: June 21, 2013

RE: Amendment of Circular Letter # 13-5-590 (Screening for Critical Congenital Heart Disease in Infants)

The purpose of this letter is to clarify the above referenced guidance regarding screening for Critical Congenital Heart Disease (CCHD) in newborns using pulse oximetry, previously circulated to Maternity Hospitals and Birthing Centers. Specifically, the CCHD Pulse Oximetry Screening and Reporting Factsheet and Algorithm have been amended to clarify that “newborn nursery” includes both well-newborn nurseries (Level IA and IB) and special care nurseries (Level IIA and IIB). An amended Factsheet and Algorithm is attached.

If you have questions about the information in this correspondence, please contact Marlene Anderka at 617-624-6045 or email [Marlene.Anderka@state.ma.us](mailto:Marlene.Anderka@state.ma.us).

**We request that you forward this clarification and revised Factsheet to the following staff at your hospital, and any others as appropriate: Chief Medical Officer, Chief of Obstetrics, Chief of Pediatrics, Chief of Neonatology, Chief Nursing Officer, Director of Maternal and Child Health, and QA Director/Risk Manager.**

Enclosure: CCHD Pulse Oximetry Screening and Reporting Factsheet