

Perinatal Forms Guideline 14 A Guide For Completion of the British Columbia Community Newborn Assessment (PSBC 1597)

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Introduction

The revised British Columbia Community Newborn Assessment has been developed to facilitate the assessment and documentation of pertinent information of the newborn in a structured, logical and standardized manner. It is a form to facilitate consistent and complete documentation, communication, and continuity of care among health care providers and provides a guide for evidence-based newborn care. Data from the Newborn Assessment is collected in the Health Authority/provincial information system (Panorama in 2012). Definitions for each field are incorporated into the Information System with the Newborn Community Assessment in some health areas serving as a worksheet prior to data entry.

Guiding Principles

The BC Community Newborn Assessment is designed for use in conjunction with the Newborn Nursing Care Pathway, the Postpartum Nursing Care Pathway and the BC Community Postpartum Assessment.

Several key principles guided the design and development:

- Be applicable for all health units providing newborn care and follow-up in the community
- Incorporate relevant information from the birth
- Be adaptable to charting by exception or variance charting
- Minimize double charting
- Utilize standardize terminology and abbreviations
- Facilitate early recognition, timely communication and intervention for changes in newborn wellbeing
- Seamless integration with the Community Postpartum Assessment Record as much as possible
- Enable electronic data entry, archiving or formatting

General Guidelines

Specific guidelines are relevant to all sections of the Community Newborn Assessment

- To determine the specifics of the normal and normal variation, variances, interventions, parent education and anticipatory guidance, and frequency of assessment, The PSBC Newborn Nursing Care Pathway is used as the foundation for documentation
- To obtain pertinent information
 - Confirm assessment data with parents/caregivers
 - Review the information provided on the Community Liaison Record
 - The performance of a newborn physical, feeding and behavioural assessment is referred to as a Nursing Assessment
- For any identified variances
 - Document/ make notes in the Variance Record/ Progress Notes prior to entry into the electronic information system
 - Communicate including documentation with the Primary Health Care Provider (PHCP) or designate as necessary:
 - Time of notification
 - Nature of communication
 - Responses of PHCP
 - Plan of action
 - Response or evaluation of outcomes
- A blank space or 'X' indicates that the action or assessment was not performed

The following sections provide descriptive information on the items on the Community Newborn Assessment:

- The term “Document” instructs one to write out the requested information in the space provided
- The term “Indicate” instructs one to check (✓) the box provided

Demographic Information

Item	Description
Surname	Document the infant's surname
Given Name(s)	Document the infant's name, if known
Mother's surname	Document the infant's mother's surname, if different from the infant
Address	Document the primary address including, city and postal code where the infant will be living
Telephone	Document the telephone and/or cell phone where the infant's parent/guardian may be contacted

Birth and Background Information

Item	Description
Date of birth	Document the infants date of birth using yy/mm/dd
Gestational Age (GA)	Document the infant's gestational age
Birth Weight	Document the infant's birth weight in grams
Discharge Weight and date	Document the infant's discharge weight in grams and date, if taken
Nursing Priority Score	Document the Total of the Nursing Priority Score, the date and legible initials of the person completing the score

Date	Document the date of the contact with the family using yy/mm/dd
Age in hours up to 96 hours then # of days	Document the age of the infant in hours Once the infant is 96 hours old (4 days) document the age in days
Contact type	Document the type of contact with the family: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HV – Home visit • TC – Telephone contact • CV – Clinic visit • BfC – Public Health Breastfeeding Clinic • O – Other location

Assessment and Education

Instructions/ legend	<p>As per the legend indicate the assessment outcome in the appropriate column</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • √/NAP = Normal / no apparent problems • NA = Not applicable • X = Not assessed • V/O = Variance / observation • R = Referral • UCC = Under continuing care
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1.0 Growth & Nutrition

Item	Description
Breastfeeding status on discharge from hospital	<p>Breastmilk includes breastfeeding, expressed breastmilk or donor milk and undiluted drops or syrups consisting of vitamins, mineral supplements or medicines.</p> <p>Document the infant's breastfeeding status on discharge from hospital as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exclusive Breastmilk – no food or liquid or other than breastmilk not even water, is given to the infant from birth by the mother, health care provider, or family member/ supporter • Any Breastmilk – breastmilk, given by the mother, health care provider, or family member/supporter plus any feeding of food or liquid including non-human milk during the past 7 days (or since birth for the newborn) • No Breastmilk – the infant received no breastmilk
Weight	Document the infant's weight as assessed
Breastfeeding	<p>Document the infant's feeding status at the time of nursing contact(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exclusive Breastmilk – definition as above (includes human donor milk and EBM) • Total Breastmilk – no food or liquid other than breastmilk, not even water, is given to the infant from birth by the mother, health care provider, or family member/ supporter during the past 7 days. NOTE: This definition identifies infants who are receiving only breastmilk at the time of data collection but have not been exclusively breastfed since birth. This accounts for those infants who received a supplement(s) at some point, such as in the first 2 days of life, but exclusively breastfeed following this intervention. However, based on the exclusive breastfeeding definition they can no longer be classified as having exclusive breastmilk. • Any Breastmilk – breastmilk, given by the mother, health care provider, or family member/supporter plus any feeding of food or liquid including non-human milk, during the past 7 days. • No Breastmilk – the infant/child received no breastmilk.
Vitamin D	<p>Indicate whether or not the infant is receiving Vitamin D supplement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes or No
Overall Feeding Assessment	Document the nursing assessment of the overall feeding assessment
Head circumference/ Infant length	Document the infant's head circumference and/or length based on need (prn)

2.0 Physiological

Item	Description
Assessment column	<p>Indicate the appropriate legend for each of the areas relating to the newborn assessment as per the Newborn Nursing Care Pathway</p> <p>The newborn assessment in the community setting includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Head, nares, eyes, ears/hearing, mouth• Chest, abdomen, umbilicus• Genitalia• Skeletal, extremities, neuromuscular• Skin/ jaundice• Vital signs (T / HR / R) prn• Elimination – voids / stools

3.0 General Health / Behaviour / Support

Item	Description
Assessment column	<p>Indicate the appropriate legend for each of the areas relating to the newborn assessment as per the Newborn Nursing Care Pathway</p> <p>The newborn assessment in the community setting includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attachment• Behaviour (sleeping, crying, quiet patterns)• Immunizations• Communicable Disease (CD) risk factors• Health care follow-up

4.0 Lifestyle, Safety, Injury Prevention

Item	Description
Assessment column	<p>Indicate the appropriate legend for each of the areas relating to the newborn assessment as per the Newborn Nursing Care Pathway</p> <p>The newborn assessment in the community setting includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exposure to tobacco<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Yes or no• Safety:<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Infant child restraint (ICR)■ Hazards (such as hot water, safe sleep, cribs, etc.)■ Personal safety
Other needs / concerns	<p>Specify any other needs or concerns relating to the infant identified during the nursing assessment</p>

Obtaining copies of the BC Community Newborn Assessment

- Health Authorities/Health Units may obtain copies of the forms through RR Donnelley.
- Refer to PSBC website link <http://www.perinatalservicesbc.ca/Forms.htm> for the order form.
- Contact Perinatal Services BC (PSBC) at 604.877.2121 regarding any feedback or questions about the perinatal forms.

Revision Committee

Members of the Community Newborn Assessment Committee:

Perinatal Services BC (PSBC) would like to acknowledge the committee who revised the BC Community Newborn Assessment. Committee members included:

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