

CCHD Screen Exceptions Guide



Critical Congenital Heart Defect (CCHD) Screening

- Performed through pulse oximetry
- Allows for early life-saving medical intervention
- Every Hoosier newborn is screened unless they meet one of the following exceptions:
 - Newborn is on supplemental oxygen or respiratory support
 - Newborn underwent a cardiac echocardiogram prior to CCHD screen
 - Newborn is on palliative or hospice care
 - Newborn received a prenatal CCHD diagnosis
- These newborns should be documented in your monthly summary reports (MSRs).

Visit nbs.in.gov to learn about our MSR educational opportunities.

Newborn is on supplemental oxygen or respiratory support:

Q. Why shouldn't a CCHD screen be performed on this newborn?

A. The results would not be a reliable indicator of this newborn's O₂ saturation levels.

Q. What should happen when a newborn comes off supplemental oxygen or respiratory support?

A. The provider is responsible for using their best judgement to assess whether the newborn requires CCHD screening. This final screening decision should be reflected in INSTEP.

Newborn underwent a cardiac echo prior to CCHD screen:

Q. Why doesn't this newborn need a CCHD screening?

A. This newborn received diagnostic testing through an echo prior to CCHD screening. Diagnostic testing overrules the need for screening CCHDs.

Newborn is on palliative or hospice care:

Q. Why doesn't this newborn need a CCHD screening?

A. CCHD screening would not be consistent with palliative or hospice care efforts for this newborn.

The option for CCHD screening should always be discussed with the family.

Newborn received a prenatal CCHD diagnosis:

Q. Why doesn't this newborn need a CCHD screen?

A. This newborn already received a confirmed diagnosis of a critical congenital heart disease. Therefore, screening after birth is repetitive and not needed for confirmation.

The CCHD should be communicated to IDOH through this exception entry.