



---

# MEMO

---

**Date:** May 2, 2017

**To:** PPH Managers,  
Community Area Directors

**From:** Carolyn Perchuk, RN MN, IBCLC  
Program Director – Population & Public Health

**Subject** **Practice Change for Discharging Newborns at Risk for Jaundice  
- Effective May 9, 2017**

---

Effective May 9th, 2017 the Women's Health program will be providing all families of newborns with the attached Newborn Jaundice Discharge Information sheet. In addition, for babies that fall into the High Intermediate or High Risk Zone on the Nomogram, hospital nurses will have consistent conversations with the "most responsible provider" as to a follow-up plan of care. The follow-up plan of care will be documented on the PPRF.

This change in practice is being implemented to facilitate clear, consistent communication between the hospital, primary care providers, public health and families related to newborns at risk for jaundice.

To summarize:

- 1) Effective May 9, 2017, the Newborn Jaundice Discharge Information sheet will be provided to all families of newborns discharged from the Mother Baby Units at both SBH and HSC Women's Hospital. Parents will be instructed to share this document with their public health nurse and the health care provider (physician, midwife, nurse practitioner) they take their newborn to for follow-up.
- 2) The Newborn Jaundice Discharge Information sheet will replace the information which is currently documented on page 4 of the booklet "Caring for Yourself and Baby After Giving Birth".

The Newborn Jaundice Discharge Information sheet will be faxed to the follow up care provider, and will contain specific follow up instructions. If the newborn was at a low or low intermediate risk for jaundice according to the nomogram, follow-up for jaundice is not required, and that section of the handout will be stroked out or remain blank. The usual 7 to 14 day follow up with the care provider will be written out for the parent on the form.

- 3) If the follow up care provider is not known or if a fax number is not available, the nurses on the units will be instructed to document this on the Newborn Jaundice Discharge Information sheet and in the newborn chart. Again, the family will be instructed to keep the document and share it with whomever they follow up with including the PHN.

- 4) A copy of the Newborn Jaundice Discharge Information Sheet will be retained in the chart.
- 5) The hospital nurses are expected to continue to document the plan of care on the PPRF as well.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. P. P.", written in a cursive style.

Attachment