



January 26, 2011

Dear Hospital/Birth Center/Healthcare Practitioner:

On December 14, 2010, the Pennsylvania Department of Health (Department) sent a letter to hospitals, birth centers and healthcare practitioners outlining the requirements of Act 73, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Education and Prevention Program Act, which went into effect on December 18, 2010. In follow up to that letter and in order to ensure that hospitals, birth centers and healthcare practitioners deliver educational and instructional materials to parents that comply with Act 73, the Department is requesting the following by February 11, 2011:

- That you provide to the Department of Health, via e-mail or regular mail, a list of the Sudden Infant Death Syndrome and Sudden Unexplained Death in Infants educational and instructional materials that your hospital, birth center or healthcare practitioners provide to parents as required by Act 73.

The Department has reviewed the following list of materials and determined that these materials address elements outlined in Act 73.

List of Educational and Instructional Materials for Act 73:

- Pennsylvania Department of Health ***“Reducing Your Baby’s Risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and Accidental Suffocation During Sleep”***
- Pennsylvania Department of Health ***“Reducing the Risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)”***
- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) ***“A Parents’ Guide to Safe Sleep”***
- First Candle/Halo ***“Safe Sleep Tips”***
- First Candle ***“Back is Best for Baby’s Sleep and Other Tips for Parents and Caregivers”***
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development ***“Safe Sleep for your Baby Reduces the Risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)”***
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development ***“What does a safe sleep environment look like? Lower the risk of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)”***
- Maternity Care Coalition ***“Sleeping Safely”***
- National Sudden and Unexpected Infant/Child Death and Pregnancy Loss Resource Center ***“Helping Baby Back To Sleep”***
- Community Media Partners ***“Safe Sleep for Your Baby Right From the Start”*** DVD

However, if your hospital, birth center or healthcare practitioners are using educational and instructional materials not on the list above, the Department is also requesting the following by February 11, 2011:

- That you provide **one copy of each** of the Sudden Infant Death Syndrome and Sudden Unexplained Death in Infants educational and instructional materials that your hospital, birth center or healthcare practitioners provide to parents as required by Act 73.

The Department will review the submitted educational and instructional materials. If the Department determines that your educational and instructional materials meet the requirements of Act 73, the Department will send you a letter stating that the hospital, birth center or healthcare practitioner is providing educational and instructional materials that comply with Act 73. This letter may then be provided to Department licensing surveyors at the time of your facility inspection.

Please send one copy of each educational and instructional materials via e-mail to ghallden@state.pa.us or hardcopy to:

Department of Health
Division of Child and Adult Health Services
SIDS Program Administrator
Health and Welfare Building, 7th Floor East Wing
625 Forster Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Thank you again for your attention to this important public health issue. If you have questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact Giselle Hallden at (717) 772-2762.

Sincerely,



Melita J. Jordan, CNM, MSN, APRN, C
Director
Bureau of Family Health

CC: Melanie Waters, Director
Bureau of Facility Licensure and Certification

Melia Belonus, Director
Bureau of Community Program Licensure and Certification

Giselle Hallden, SIDS Program Administrator