

Birth Information Network Rule

1.0 Authority

This rule is adopted pursuant to 18 V.S.A. § 5087 (b) which authorizes the Department to collect information for the Birth Information Network (BIN), and 18 V.S.A. § 5087 (e) which authorizes the Department to amend the list of medical conditions through rulemaking pursuant to 3 V.S.A §801 (b)(11).

2.0 Purpose

The purpose of this rule is to specify health conditions of newborns which shall be reported to the Birth Information Network for public health surveillance, health system planning and referral for outreach, early intervention and treatment.

3.0 Definitions

- 3.1 “Birth Defect” means a condition existing at or before birth regardless of cause and symptoms.
- 3.2 “BIN” means the Birth Information Network. The Vermont BIN was established in 2003 to conduct statewide, population-level surveillance of selected structural birth defects and other congenital conditions in order to provide information on public health activities and plan for interventions to improve the health and quality of life for children and their families.
- 3.3 “Department” means the Department of Health.
- 3.4 “Dried bloodspot” means the blood specimen drawn for the purpose of screening newborns for certain serious disorders not readily apparent at birth and which require early diagnosis and treatment.
- 3.5 “NBDPN” means the National Birth Defects Prevention Network. The NBDPN is an organization that addresses the issues of birth defects surveillance, research

and prevention under one umbrella by maintaining a national network of state and population-based birth defects programs. It publishes standards for public health surveillance and a comprehensive list of birth defects that should be identified and reported by states.

- 3.6 “NBDPN Guidelines and Standards” means the unified collection of guidelines and standards assembled by the NBDPN and provided to its partners. The guidelines cover the fundamental aspects of developing, planning, implementing, and conducting surveillance for birth defects. This is done to standardize and improve the quality of state birth defects surveillance data. The guidelines also can be used to analyze, interpret, and suggest program changes.
- 3.7 “Newborn Screening Conditions” means those conditions screened for by the Vermont’s Newborn Screening Program pursuant to 18 V.S.A. §§ 102, 115 and 5087.

4.0 Birth Conditions Included in the Birth Information Network

The Department is authorized to collect information about the following:

- 4.1 Newborn screening conditions identified through dried blood spot screenings. The list of conditions is in the Newborn Screening Rule.
- 4.2 A confirmed diagnosis of congenital hearing loss.
- 4.3 Very low birth weight of less than 1500 grams.
- 4.4 Birth defects identified in the NBDPN Guidelines and Standards and incorporated into this rule by reference.
- 4.5 Any other birth defects or conditions required by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.