



Ohio Revised Code

Section 3701.5010 Critical congenital heart defects screening.

Effective: March 20, 2025

Legislation: Senate Bill 196 - 135th General Assembly

(A) As used in this section:

(1) "Critical congenital heart defects screening" means the identification of a newborn that may have a critical congenital heart defect, through the use of a physiologic test.

(2) "Freestanding birthing center" has the same meaning as in section 3701.503 of the Revised Code.

(3) "Hospital," "maternity unit," "newborn," and "physician" have the same meanings as in section 3701.503 of the Revised Code.

(4) "Pulse oximetry" means a noninvasive test that estimates the percentage of hemoglobin in blood that is saturated with oxygen.

(B) Except as provided in division (C) of this section, each hospital and each freestanding birthing center shall conduct a critical congenital heart defects screening on each newborn born in the hospital or center, unless the newborn is being transferred to another hospital. The screening shall be performed before discharge. If the newborn is transferred to another hospital, that hospital shall conduct the screening when determined to be medically appropriate. The hospital or center shall promptly notify the newborn's parent, guardian, or custodian and attending physician, certified nurse-midwife, clinical nurse specialist, or certified nurse practitioner of the screening results.

(C) A hospital or freestanding birthing center shall not conduct a critical congenital heart defects screening if the newborn's parent objects on the grounds that the screening conflicts with the parent's religious tenets and practices.

(D)(1) The director of health shall adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code establishing standards and procedures for the screening required by this section, including all of the



following:

- (a) Designating the person or persons responsible for causing the screening to be performed;
 - (b) Specifying screening equipment and methods;
 - (c) Identifying when the screening should be performed;
 - (d) Providing notice of the required screening to the newborn's parent, guardian, or custodian;
 - (e) Communicating screening results to the newborn's parent, guardian, or custodian and attending physician, certified nurse-midwife, clinical nurse specialist, or certified nurse practitioner;
 - (f) Reporting screening results to the department of health;
 - (g) Referring newborns that receive abnormal screening results to providers of follow-up services.
- (2) In adopting rules under division (D)(1)(b) of this section, the director shall specify screening equipment and methods that include the use of pulse oximetry or other screening equipment and methods that detect critical congenital heart defects at least as accurately as pulse oximetry. The screening equipment and methods specified shall be consistent with recommendations issued by nationally recognized organizations that advocate on behalf of medical professionals or individuals with cardiovascular conditions.