

OCCG SERVICE SPECIFICATION (2017/18)

FIRST EXAMINATION OF THE NEWBORN

1. Introduction

In line with current clinical practice all neonates can expect to receive a medical examination within 72 hours of birth. Oxfordshire CCG currently commissions intrapartum care from secondary care providers and paediatricians provide a check for the vast majority of neonates before discharge.

In a small number of cases mothers choose a home delivery. In such cases, whilst intrapartum care continues to be provided by Community Midwives, the mother's own GP has often provided the first examination of the newborn rather than expecting mother and baby to return to hospital for the examination.

We also need to recognise that a number of new deliveries involve the neonate leaving hospital in much shorter time periods than historically. This can lead to the neonate not receiving a medical examination in hospital. Therefore this specification covers the medical examination/intrapartum care for these newborns also.

The following link accesses the Child Health Promotion programme and the relevant section relating to the newborn physical examination can be found on page 38.
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/167998/Health_Child_Programme.pdf

For additional information, the Newborn and Infant Physical Examination Standards and Competencies, March 2008, can be found at
<http://newbornphysical.screening.nhs.uk/cms.php?folder=2365> Page 34 of this document describes what comprises the newborn physical check

2. Aims

The aim of commissioning GPs to carry out this examination is to:

- Support women in their choice to have home based intrapartum care
- Support a limited number of early discharged newborns
- Ensure appropriate examination of the newborn is undertaken

This service in no way replaces the need for intrapartum care to be provided by the Hospital Maternity Departments, as the normal route.

3. Service Outline

Under this service specification the following will be funded:

- Completion of the neonate check in a location to be agreed between GP and mother, not necessarily the GP surgery
- Completion of the relevant documentation in the Maternity Record
- The check should be undertaken following discharge or home birth, up to a **maximum of 72 hours after birth.**

4. Exceptions

There will be times when the examination cannot take place within 72 hours of birth during normal practice hours, e.g. bank holiday weekends. Practices should ensure that the reason for late examinations is thoroughly documented in patient records.

In order to allow for bank holiday closures, a late examination will be accepted for payment if it takes place on the next working day after the practice is notified of birth or discharge.

Patients who are not registered either temporarily or permanently with the practice are not covered by this service specification.

5. Payment

In 2017/18 practices will receive £52 per individual check performed. Payment will be made based on actual activity carried out as reflected in quarterly activity monitoring reports to the CCG.

6. Monitoring

Practices are asked to submit a quarterly report of actual activity to the CCG using QUEST by the 15th of the month following the end of each quarter during the year. Relevant Read Codes are shown in Appendix 1.

All newborn patients receiving this service must be registered permanently or as temporary residents with the practice as NHS patients.

7. Termination

This service will terminate on 31st March 2019. Any change or early termination of this agreement must be agreed by both Commissioner and Provider.

APPENDIX 1

Data Collection Specification for Primary Care Service for First Examination of the Newborn 2017/18

	Item	Read Code	Code Description
Search Population	Babies aged under 3 months with neonatal check recorded in the quarter	64B% excluding 64B1	Child exam. – birth
Payment Criterion	Number of babies with neonatal check within 5 days of the baby's birth and during quarter	64B% excluding 64B1	Child exam. – birth Child not examined at birth

Temporary residents will be included.