

The NSO “Requisition Completeness” Indicator

Introduction

Timely and reliable newborn screening (NBS) allows babies affected with the diseases screened to be identified early and access the treatment they need to prevent serious health problems – this is the primary purpose of NBS.

The Requisition Completeness Indicator displays the percent-completeness of six key fields on the NBS blood collection device and includes all NBS specimens received at NSO during the period of the report.

Missing and/or inaccurate demographic information can have serious consequences if that information is required for the accurate interpretation of screening results.

Birth Date/Collection Date

Inaccurate provision of the date and time of birth and/or collection can lead to a baby screening negative for conditions on the panel when truly affected (false negatives), or screening positive when they are not affected (false positives). Both scenarios place unnecessary burden on the baby, their family and the health care system.

Birth Weight/Gestational Age

Failure to provide an accurate birth weight or gestational age can lead to difficulty interpreting results and might ultimately delay identifying a baby affected with one of the diseases screened.

Health Card Number

Inaccurate demographic information on the baby (e.g. incorrect Ontario Health Card Number) can lead to baby misidentification and/or prevent our database from linking multiple specimens on the same baby together.

Ordering HCP

Inaccurate completion of the primary health care provider’s contact information and/ or parent/guardian’s information can lead to delays in locating a baby who has screened positive – and subsequent delays in the initiation of treatment.

Missing/incomplete information in any of these fields on the requisition requires that NSO staff members establish follow-up contact with the submitting institution by phone, resulting in unnecessary delays in the baby’s screening process and creating un-necessary work for you and NSO.

However, if any of the required information is not available when the NBS specimen is ready to ship, please do not delay shipping the specimen. You may provide that information to NSO once it becomes available.

Benchmark

The NSO Benchmark for Requisition Completeness is that 100% of these six critical fields be completed upon receipt of the blood collection card at NSO.

Interpretation



100.0% =Green Upon receipt at NSO, this field is complete for 100.0% of blood collection cards



95.0% -99.9%=Yellow Upon receipt at NSO, this field is complete for 95.0-99.9% of blood collection cards



95.0% =Red Upon receipt at NSO, this field is complete for <95.0% of blood collection cards

Data for all newborn screening specimens submitted and received at NSO is included in the Requisition Completeness indicator. The percentage of requisitions with completed fields is reported.

Reports also provide the absolute number of requisitions received during the period of the report and the number of those which had all critical fields completed.

