

CCHD Screening Newsletter 2016-3

December 9, 2016

Building Your Organization's CCHD Pulse Oximetry Screening Policy/Program

Building or adapting your organization's CCHD pulse oximetry (pulse ox) screening policy/program is one of the first steps to take when preparing for your organization's screening launch. Here are some key policy points to keep in mind. If your organization is already screening for CCHD by pulse ox, these points will help you align your current practices with NSO's program recommendations.

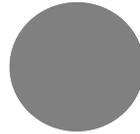
Pulse ox screening best practices

- Recommended **timing** for the CCHD screen is 24-48 hours of age, the earlier within that time frame, the better.
- Screen for CCHD **prior to** any disruptive care actions (for example, complete CCHD pulse ox screening prior to blood spot screening).
- Oxygen saturation measurements from **2 sites**, pre-ductal (RIGHT hand) and post-ductal (EITHER foot), are collected in **direct sequence**.
 - ◇ Attach the probe to one site. Once a **reliable signal** is ensured, measure the saturation for 30 seconds, noting the highest saturation achieved during this time. Repeat for the second site.
- Evaluate the results using the NSO approved **algorithm** or **evaluation chart** (see [NSO's CCHD Screening Newsletter 2016-11](#)).

Positive screen management

- In the case of a screen positive result **in hospital**:
 - ◇ The Most Responsible Practitioner will be notified.
 - ◇ An **urgent referral** will be made to a physician.
- In the case of a screen positive result in an **out-of-hospital** setting:
 - ◇ An **urgent consultation to a physician** for assessment will be made.
 - ◇ The usual referral protocol as appropriate per clinical picture will be followed.
- After a screen positive referral, the **physical exam by physician** should include a 4 limb BP, femoral pulses, full vital signs and pre- and post- ductal saturations. Also consider an ECG, chest X-Ray and rule out other non-cardiac causes. If cardiac diagnosis cannot be confidently ruled out, consultation with a paediatric cardiologist or paediatrician/neonatologist for further investigation would be advisable.





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Special considerations

- **Discharges from hospital prior to 24 hours of age:** Newborns that are discharged home from hospital prior to 24 hours of age are considered to be discharged early. They will not have a CCHD pulse ox screen prior to discharge but will either:
 - ◇ Have the screen performed by their midwife on an outpatient basis (in their home) during the recommended window of 24-48 hours of age.
- OR
- ◇ Return to hospital or other care facility for a NSO CCHD pulse ox screen when the newborn is 24-48 hours of age (to be arranged prior to discharge). It is the responsibility of the discharging hospital to ensure the CCHD Screen is arranged.
- **Babies in the NICU/SCN:** No need to screen if expected length of stay is **over** 7 days; they can be screened if their cardio-respiratory status is stable and their anticipated length of stay is less than 7 days. Screen during hospital stay, ideally during the recommended window OR screen at time of discharge if length of stay is less than 7 days.

Documentation

- The results should be documented in your organization's patient medical record and on the CCHD portion of a modified **blood spot card** (coming soon, in time for your organization's CCHD screening program launch). Forward the card to NSO following your organization's existing shipping procedure for blood spot cards.

Equipment Update

As part of NSO's role in the province-wide CCHD screening program, NSO will be providing **standards for pulse oximeters** that are suitable for use for CCHD screening. NSO has a portion of **funding available for equipment for the rollout** of the screening program across Ontario, and is currently working on an equipment procurement and distribution strategy to support your organization and others across the province as you begin your NSO CCHD pulse ox screening programs. A request for proposal has been sent out this week for the procurement of pulse oximeters and more information regarding equipment will be coming once responses are received. We're excited to share more information about this with you in the near future!

Coming Up in the Next CCHD Screening Newsletter

- Educational resources available to support your organization's NSO CCHD pulse ox screening program

Newborn Screening Ontario, CCHD Screening Implementation Team

Thank you for your support! For more information or to be added to the distribution list for email updates NSOCCHD@cheo.on.ca

