

## Postpartum Assessment Instructions

This form is completed by the health services staff within two weeks of delivery. It is the responsibility of the social services staff to notify the health coordinator in advance to schedule the home visit. Once the visit takes place, a copy of the assessment is placed in the participant's file.

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### What Does the Two-Week Newborn Home Visit Address?

The first few weeks of a baby's life are an exciting and demanding time for the baby and the family. The two-week newborn visit required by the *Head Start Program Performance Standards* focuses on the "well-being of both the mother and the child."

This visit does not take the place of well-baby checks. It also does not replace medical care for the mother. Instead, at the two-week newborn visit, staff :

- supplement those medical appointments,
- address families' questions,
- evaluate the health of babies and mothers, and
- offer resources and referrals as necessary.

To the extent possible, staffs plan this visit with a family when the mother is pregnant. Staff describes the goals of the visit and document plans in the Family Partnership Agreement. Plans must stay flexible, however, as family preferences for the visit may change after the baby's birth.

**Performance Standard:**

1304.40(i)(6) Grantee and delegate agencies serving infants and toddlers must arrange for health staff to visit each newborn within two weeks after the infant's birth to ensure the well-being of both the mother and the child.



*Early Head Start Postpartum Assessment*

Center/Facility Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Infant's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Health Staff: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of visit: \_\_\_\_\_

**1. How did labor and delivery go? Explain:**  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**2. INFANT ASSESSMENT**  
*Note each by using: {WNL} – within normal limits {ABN} – abnormal*

_____ Overall appearance	_____ Mouth (sucking reflexes)	_____ Skin
_____ Respiration	_____ Trunk	_____ Umbilicus
_____ Eyes (clear)	_____ Extremities	_____ Nose (clear)

Has infant had a newborn check-up?  Yes  No If No, when scheduled? \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Care Provider and/or Medical Home:  
 Address:  
 If 'No', was a referral offered:  Yes  No Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**3. GENITALIA**  Male  Female Elimination: \_\_\_\_\_

**4. FEEDING PATTERN**  
 Breast  Formula  Breast & Bottle How many ounces:  
 If formula, what type : \_\_\_\_\_ How many times/day: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are you enrolled with the WIC Program?  Yes  No If 'No', was referral offered?  Yes  No

Sleeping arrangements and patterns:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**5. MOTHER'S HEALTH**

Have you had your postpartum check -up?  Yes  No If No, when scheduled? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Any health problems since delivery?  Yes  No

If YES, please explain:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_



<b><u>HEALTH EDUCATION</u></b>		
If breast feeding: Do you have enough milk?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Does your baby take the breast easily?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Are your nipples cracked and/or sore?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Do you have any questions about breast feeding?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Do you have any questions about mixing or feeding formula?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Do you have any questions about your baby's health? If 'Yes', please explain:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Do you feel comfortable in your relationship with your baby? If 'Yes', please explain:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Do you have any questions about your baby's safety? If 'Yes', please explain:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Do you have the resources to assist in taking full benefit of the health of you and your baby?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If "No" indicate where needs exist: <input type="checkbox"/> Housing <input type="checkbox"/> Financial <input type="checkbox"/> Food <input type="checkbox"/> Family</li> </ul>		
Has your relationship with the baby's father changed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
Are you using, or planning to use, any method of birth control?  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If "Yes", which one?</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If "No", would you like further information? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b><u>REFERRALS:</u></b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> WIC Date Enrolled:	Agency:	
<input type="checkbox"/> SNAP <input type="checkbox"/> Medicaid <input type="checkbox"/> AFDC <input type="checkbox"/> Others:	Agency:	
<b><u>MATERIALS GIVEN:</u></b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Birth Control <input type="checkbox"/> Infant Feeding <input type="checkbox"/> Infant Care <input type="checkbox"/> Infant Safety	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:	
<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:
<b><u>SIGNATURE</u></b>		
Health Services Staff:		Date:
Social Services Staff :		Date: