



Ohio Administrative Code

Rule 3701-83-37 Admission; discharge; transfer - freestanding birthing centers.

Effective: July 15, 2022

(A) Each freestanding birthing center shall establish policies and procedures for the assessment of expectant mothers to determine:

- (1) If the expectant mother meets the low-risk requirements for admission to the center; and
- (2) If a normal, full term, spontaneous vaginal birth is anticipated.

(B) Each center shall establish and follow admission policies and procedures. The center shall upon admission of a patient:

- (1) Review the patient's health records;
- (2) Observe and document vital signs;
- (3) Observe and document labor progress; and
- (4) Determine whether diagnostic or screening procedures are required.

(C) Each center shall have a written transfer agreement with a hospital for the transfer of a mother or a newborn in the event of medical complications, emergency situations, or as the need arises.

(D) Each center shall maintain all necessary and appropriate medical equipment and a sufficient staff to provide for the timely transfer and transport to a hospital.

(E) Each center shall evaluate each expectant mother to determine whether an intrapartum transfer is necessary. The evaluation shall include an assessment of the following:

- (1) Abnormal progress of labor;



(2) Development of maternal complications;

(3) Need for cesarean birth; and

(4) Development of fetal complications.

(F) Each center shall evaluate each mother and newborn to determine whether a postpartum transfer is necessary including evaluation of the following:

(1) Medical complications of the mother; and

(2) Medical complications of the newborn.

(G) Each center shall establish and follow discharge criteria utilizing nationally recognized standards. Prior to discharge each center shall identify a primary care provider for both mother and baby. For postpartum stays less than forty-eight hours, each center shall provide or arrange for the examination of the mother and newborn within seventy-two hours after discharge by a licensed health care provider acting within their scope of practice.