

## Electronic Birth Registration

### Reminders for Collecting Quality Data

As you know, completing a birth certificate is more than just "filling in the blanks." Entering the best information from the best source leads to the highest quality data that can be used for vital statistics. This, in turn, influences medical practice and public health policy in countless ways. If shortcuts are taken, data quality diminishes. The following are some items that we sometimes encounter problems with and guidelines for properly completing them.

#### Item 35 - Characteristics of Labor and Delivery

Two of the possible selections for this item are "induction of labor" and "augmentation of labor." These two choices are sometimes confused with each other. The difference between the two is a matter of timing.

Induction of labor - check this if labor included the initiation of uterine contractions by medical and/or surgical means for the purpose of delivery **before** the spontaneous onset of labor (i.e.,

**before labor has begun**).

Augmentation of labor - check this if labor included the stimulation of uterine contractions by drug or manipulative technique with the intent to reduce the time of delivery (i.e., **after labor has begun**).

#### Item 43 - Obstetric Estimate of Gestation

Enter the obstetric estimate of the infant's gestation in completed weeks based on the birth attendant's final estimate of gestation. This estimate should be determined by all perinatal factors and assessments such as ultrasound, but **NOT** the neonatal exam. **DO NOT** complete this item based **SOLELY** on the infant's date of birth and the mother's date of last menstrual period. If the obstetric estimate of gestation is not known, indicate "unknown" by entering "99" in ROVER.

#### Item 44 - APGAR Score

The collection of this data has

changed somewhat. Previously the birth certificate required the APGAR score at one minute and five minutes. Now the certificate requires the APGAR scores at five minutes. If the APGAR score at five minutes is less than 6, then the APGAR score at 10 minutes is also required.

As always, if you have any questions about these or any other items on the birth certificate, please contact us by using the ROVER Helpline or e-mail, or by using any of the numbers listed to the right.



### Vital Records Training Pages and Resources

We have reorganized the Vital Records training pages on the Oklahoma State Department of Health website. It is our hope this makes the information more accessible and user friendly. It includes basic instructions on how to complete a birth certificate and a stillbirth certificate. In addition, a special

web address was created that will bypass the surfing through the website and go straight to the "Training & Materials" page. From there you can choose which training material you would like to view. A special thank you goes out to Rebecca Moore for making this reorganization possible.

The special web address is: <http://vrtraining.health.ok.gov>.

You can also access applications for certified copies of birth certificates and stillbirth certificates at other locations on our website. If you need help finding these resources, give us a call and we will talk you through the process.

#### ROVER Training and Enrollment Team

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#### ROVER System Requirements

For the system to run at optimal performance, your computer should have the following features:

- Internet Explorer 6.0 or later
- Adobe Acrobat Reader
- Laser Printer
- Broadband Internet Connection



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We Collect, Analyze, and Disseminate  
Health Statistics to Help Create a State of  
Health.

## PLEASE DO NOT HOLD PATERNITY FORMS

Paternity forms should not be held for any reason. If the mother/father/husband are able to complete the required paperwork at your facility, the paperwork should be mailed to the Vital Records Division either the day of or the day after the birth certificate is submitted. If they cannot complete the required paperwork at your facility, please give them the appropriate blank paternity forms and refer them to the Department of Human Services and/or the Vital Records Division for assistance. There is no circumstance where you could or should hold on to partially completed paternity forms and wait for the mother/father/husband to come to the hospital to complete them. This only causes unnecessary delays in the filing of the birth record.

### Field Services Update

Since July 1st we have made 34 visits with birth facility personnel. Jan and Sherrie have driven out to Idabel, Lawton, Enid, Muskogee, and places in between. We've provided ROVER Birth Training, supplies, support, and someone to talk to.

We also monitor the ROVER Help Line to answer questions, address system problems, and make referrals to appropriate personnel to resolve registration issues.

Please let us know if you would like to receive a visit from us. We would be happy to come see you. Also let us know if you need any supplies such as mail-in envelopes, birth certificate applications, baby name books, stillbirth certificates, etc. If we're headed your way, we'll drop them off at your place. Otherwise we'll have them mailed to you as soon as possible.

### Reminder About ROVER "Helps!"

**Read what ROVER tells you!** If you get an edit box, read the box to learn what your choices are to resolve the edit. Also, if you move your cursor with the mouse and place it on the text of an Item, a note box will appear that gives you specific information on how to collect the requested data.

### Stillbirth Certificates

Stillbirth events create a lot of confusion and errors. It is an event that does not result in a live birth so it does not qualify for a birth certificate. It does not qualify for a death certificate because, as defined by State Law, there was no life at the time of expulsion. Therefore, the event has its own vital record certificate.

The responsibility for filing stillbirth certificates is found in 63 OS 1-318. Paragraph (b) reads: "The funeral director or person acting as such who first assumes custody of a fetus shall file the fetal death certificate."

HOWEVER, it is the responsibility of the hospital to

complete most of the certificate. Many of the items on the top part of the certificate can be, and should be, completed by the hospital at the time of the event. Only Items 9 and 10 are specific to the funeral home. The medical information part of the certificate (the bottom part, called the "tail") must be completed by the hospital. This information is similar to that on a birth certificate. Birth clerks should make sure they collect this information for entry onto the stillbirth certificate.

Future phases of ROVER development will include a stillbirth module to allow these records to be completed online.



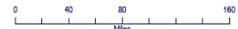
Birth Hospitals  
Training and Education Visits by Field Services Staff  
SFY 2010



Data Sources:  
OSDH Vital Records Division, Field Services

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Projection/Coordinate System: USGS Albers Equal Area Conic



Disclaimer: This map is a compilation of records, information and data from various city, county and state offices and other sources, reflecting the area shown, and is the best representation of the data available at the time. This map and data are to be used for reference purposes only. The user acknowledges and accepts all inherent limitations of this map, including the fact that the data are dynamic and in a constant state of transformation.

