

## Act 73 of 2010 Frequently Asked Questions

1. Will the brochure be translated into other languages?
  - The Department of Health's (Department) brochure will be translated into other languages based on need. Please contact Giselle Hallden ([ghallden@state.pa.us](mailto:ghallden@state.pa.us) or 717-772-2762) to request languages. The Department expects to have the translations completed within the next several weeks.
2. Will the acknowledgement statement form be translated to other languages?
  - The acknowledgement statement form will be translated into other languages based on need. Please contact Giselle Hallden ([ghallden@state.pa.us](mailto:ghallden@state.pa.us) or 717-772-2762) to request languages. The Department expects to have the translations completed within the next several weeks.
3. Is it okay, if using option (2) (the statement on the Newborn Discharge form) that the hospital's discharge form does not include a lot of the information provided on the acknowledgement statement form created by Department?
  - Yes
4. Does the Department require that hospitals send a copy of the signed acknowledgement statement form to them?
  - No. One copy goes home with the parent(s) one copy goes into the hospital file.
5. Will the Department be providing duplicate acknowledgement statement forms to hospitals?
  - Forms are available to download on the Department's website. No other forms will be provided.
6. Can the Department's acknowledgement statement form be sent out to be made into a duplicate?
  - Yes.
7. Can the Department's acknowledgement statement form be altered?
  - The format of the acknowledgement statement form may be altered to meet the needs of the hospital as long as the content of the form stays the same.
8. Can the Department provide a copy of the acknowledgement statement form (in Word) which can be easily altered in format to fit the hospital needs?
  - The acknowledgment statement form in Word format will be provided upon request. Please contact Giselle Hallden ([ghallden@state.pa.us](mailto:ghallden@state.pa.us) or 717-772-2762) to request the document.

9. Can other acknowledgement statement forms be used?
  - Two options have been approved by the Department: (1) The Department's acknowledgement statement form available on the Department's website (can be downloaded) and (2) Including the following statement on the hospital Newborn Discharge form: "I have received, read and understand the information provided to me about SIDS, SUID and Infant Safe Sleep".
10. Can the Cribs for Kids acknowledgement statement form be used?
  - Please see question # 9.
11. Should the acknowledgement statement form be kept in the maternal or child chart?
  - Hospitals, birth centers and healthcare practitioners can make their own policies about this as long as the form is available for compliance checks. Policies and procedures should reflect where these statements are to be kept.
12. Does the signed acknowledgement statement form need to be stored in a separate file?
  - Hospitals, birth centers and healthcare practitioners should develop their own policies about this but the statement needs to be accessible when surveyors check for compliance.
13. May hospitals, birth centers and healthcare practitioners photocopy the signed form rather than have the parent(s) sign two copies?
  - Yes.
14. What if a parent refuses to sign the acknowledgement statement form?
  - The person providing the information should make a note with their signature on the form that the parent refused to sign the statement.
15. What is the timeframe for the form to be signed by the parent?
  - The form needs to be signed prior to the mother's discharge from the hospital even if the baby is not being discharged at the same time.
16. Can the SIDS acknowledgement statement form be combined with the Shaken Baby Program's Commitment Statement?
  - No.
17. Must there be two copies of the acknowledgement statement form?
  - Please see question #4.
18. Who should receive the information and sign the acknowledgement statement form in the event of an adoption or other situation where the infant isn't going home with the biological parent?
  - The education should be conducted with whoever is accepting responsibility for the care of the child: social service representative, foster parents or adoptive parents should sign the form.

19. How are hospitals supposed to provide education about SUDI? Is SUDI defined in the revised brochure?
- SUDI is not specifically defined in the revised brochure. The context of the legislation defines SUID or SUDI in terms related to safe sleep practices and risk reduction methods. SUID or SUDI is the umbrella term used to talk about unexpected/unexplained infant deaths due to natural or unnatural causes. A fact sheet on SUID or SUDI will be available on the Department's website.
20. Will the Department be providing DVDs for hospital use?
- The Department intends to make the DVD "*Safe Sleep for Your Baby Right from the Start*" from Community Media Partners available to hospitals.
21. Will the Department send e-mail confirmation to hospitals, birth centers and healthcare practitioners stating that they are meeting the educational requirements of the law?
- Once materials are received, reviewed and approved, the Department will send a letter stating that the hospital, birth center or healthcare practitioner is providing materials that comply with Act 73.
22. If a hospital does not have an obstetrical unit, but has a birth in the ER, followed by the mother and baby being transferred to another hospital for follow-up care after the birth, who is responsible for providing the information on SIDS and Safe Sleep?
- The hospital responsible for discharging the mother is responsible to provide the education.
23. If a there is a home birth who is responsible to provide the education and have the acknowledgement statement form signed?
- The healthcare practitioner responsible for the birth and care of the mother and infant is responsible to providing the education.
24. Where are the brochures being sent?
- An initial supply of brochures was sent to the CEO's with a letter outlining the requirements of Act 73. For additional brochures contact Giselle Hallden ([ghallden@state.pa.us](mailto:ghallden@state.pa.us) or 717-772-2762).
25. Will there be an order form for brochures?
- Not at this time.
26. Who was the letter dated January 26, 2011 with Melita Jordan's signature sent to?
- HAP sent this letter to the Chief Nursing Officers, Quality Officers and MCH Managers. This letter is also available on the SIDS page of the Department's website.
27. When are hospitals expected to have Act 73 implemented?
- Act 73 went into effect December 18, 2010 and hospitals and birth centers are expected to be providing the information and having the acknowledgement statement forms signed. Department licensing surveyors expect that hospitals

and birth centers will have to update or create policies and procedures as well as modify policies. However, hospitals and birth centers are required to be complying with the requirements of Act 73.

28. Some hospitals are under the impression SUID or SUDI was going to be explained to the parent and it is not. Can the Department please clarify?
  - The context of the legislation defines SUID or SUDI in terms related to safe sleep practices and risk reduction methods. SUID or SUDI is the umbrella term used to talk about unexpected/unexplained infant deaths due to natural or unnatural causes. A fact sheet on SUID or SUDI will be available on the Department's website.
29. The Department's educational brochure does not discuss not relying on monitors or using infant positioner. Can the Department please clarify?
  - The AAP recommendation states: "Avoid commercial devices marketed to reduce the risk of SIDS: Although various devices have been developed to maintain sleep position or to reduce the risk of rebreathing, none have been tested sufficiently to show efficacy or safety." When reviewing the information with new families, nurses may include information related to sleep positioners.
30. When reading the pacifier statement on the Department's brochure, it only mentions breastfeeding infants. Although that is certainly what is encouraged, the message talks only to those mothers and that erroneously the bottle fed infant doesn't need to be put to sleep with a pacifier or make mention of the fact that it should not be forced.
  - Additional fact sheets may be found on the Department's website for informational purposes.
31. What if literacy or cognitive issues are present and the family is unable to "read" the educational information being provided by the hospital?
  - Nurses providing the education should read the information to the family.
32. To whom should additional questions related to Act 73 of 2010 be directed?
  - Please contact Giselle Hallden ([ghallden@state.pa.us](mailto:ghallden@state.pa.us) or 717-772-2762) for additional questions related to Act 73.