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News from the Center for Health Statistics Concerning the Oregon Birth Certificate

January 2013

INSIDE

New ways to order birth certificates..... 1

Statistical corrections 1

Staffing changes..... 2

House Bill 2380: Mother’s intended place of delivery..... 2

Oregon paternity establishment percentage..... 4

More staff for the OVERS help desk phone line 7

Helpful information for phone messages 7

[Archived articles](#)

New ways to order birth certificates at Oregon Vital Records

If your patients ask about ordering birth records, you should know about some changes we have made at the state vital records office:

- We have installed computer kiosks at the public counter;
- Customers now enter orders on the computer kiosks;
- Customers can pay with a credit or debit card when they order in person; and
- The identity of applicants is screened using an authentication quiz.

All customers ordering by phone, on the internet and in person now take the same authentication quiz. This screening tool helps us avoid releasing records to people who do not have a legal right to them.

We also moved all the data for historical 1920-2007 birth records from our mainframe system to OVERS. Now, all orders for birth and death certificates are in OVERS.

If customers have questions about ordering, you may refer them to our main web page at www.healthoregon.org/chs or have them call 1-888-896-4988. ❖

Statistical Corrections

You receive a correction request on a birth record from the Center for Health Statistics (CHS). You wonder which type of correction to select, “Correction Affidavit 1 Year and Under” or “Statistical Correction.” You ask yourself “What is

(Continued on page 2)



the difference between these two types of corrections” and “how do I complete a Statistical Correction”?

Here is the difference:

- A “Correction Affidavit 1 Year and Under” is always for correcting the information about the parents and/or the child and other information that appears on the legal birth certificate.
- A “Statistical Correction” is used to change or add demographic information (race, education, marital status) and/or medical information about the labor and delivery, the

Staffing Changes

Has your hospital experienced staffing changes? If so, it is important to let the Center for Health Statistics (CHS) know. We have implemented a new process for sending out error reports. Reports are now being sent by secure email.



House Bill 2380: Mother’s intended place of delivery

House Bill 2380 went into effect January 1, 2012 to gather information on intended place of delivery and attendant type. Two new questions were added by the Oregon State Legislature to birth and fetal death records completed in hospitals. The information from these questions, listed below, will be used to form policy and law:

- Did the mother go into labor planning to deliver at home or at a freestanding birthing center (“Yes,” “No,” or “Unknown”); and,
- If yes, the planned primary attendant type at onset of labor was (the answer is chosen from a list of attendant types).

The questions must be asked of every mother delivering in the hospital, even if the answer is usually “no.” Accurate data entry is even more important than usual. Since there are very few occurrences, a single error can change the data significantly. There are a

(Continued on page 3)

health of the mother during the pregnancy and the newborn infant. This type of information will never appear on the legal birth certificate.

The difference between making a “Correction Affidavit 1 Year and Under” and a “Statistical Correction” is selecting the type of amendment in OVERS. Remember, anything appearing on the actual legal birth certificate you select “Correction Affidavit 1 Year and Under” and for correcting anything else you select “Statistical Correction”.

If you have questions regarding “Statistical Corrections” please contact Cynthia Roeser at 971-673-0478 or at

Cynthia.R.Roeser@state.or.us ❖

Therefore, you need to make sure we have your official email address. These reports are being sent bi-weekly. Not receiving your report because of a wrong email address could result in you having to correct several weeks of errors. Therefore, do not hesitate to notify the OVERS help desk at 971-673-0279 of any changes. ❖

few things that birth clerks should keep in mind that will help ensure errors remain minimal:

- Mark the first question “yes” only if the mother actually went into labor with the intention of delivering outside of a hospital *and* was subsequently transferred to a hospital.
 - Do not mark “yes” in situations where labor began unexpectedly, such as when the birth is preterm.
 - Do not mark “yes” in situations where the mother planned to deliver at a birth center inside a hospital. Freestanding birth centers are non-hospital options for mothers who want to give birth outside of their homes. The list of licensed birthing centers is below.
- Take care when selecting the planned attendant title from the drop down.



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Medical doctors (both MD and DO) do not typically deliver outside of a hospital. The majority of out-of-facility births are attended by midwives. There are three different types of midwives in the drop down: Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM), Licensed Direct Entry Midwives, and non-licensed midwives.

- CNMs have completed an accredited, university-affiliated nurse-midwifery program, and have an active Nurse Practitioner license.
- LDMs are direct entry midwives who have volunteered for state licensure through the Oregon Health Licensing Agency. They must meet qualifications and adhere to regulations set by the State of Oregon.
- Other midwives are midwives that are not licensed in Oregon.

Submitting complete and accurate data with the birth record will result in fewer callbacks and corrections. This will save you time as well as save time for CHS staff. If you have any questions, please contact Cynthia Roeser at 971-673-0478 or by email at

Cynthia.R.Roeser@state.or.us. ❖

County	Licensed Freestanding Birthing Center
Deschutes	Bend Birth Center
	Motherwise Community Birth Center
Jackson	Trillium Waterbirth Center
Lane	Nurse Midwifery Birth Center
	Sacred Waters Birthing Center
Lincoln	Home Sweet Home Birth Center
Linn	Growing Family Birth Center
Multnomah	Alma Midwifery Services
	Andaluz Waterbirth Center - Portland
	Natural Childbirth & Family Clinic
Washington	Andaluz Waterbirth Center - Tualatin
Yamhill	Bella Vie Gentle Birth Center

Oregon Paternity Establishment Percentage continues to be met

Oregon continues to meet the paternity establishment percentage with a preliminary report of over 94 percent. We have frequently shared information on paternity establishment in the past and continue to do so because paternity establishment continues to be an important issue in Oregon. Not only is having a second parent on a child's birth certificate significant to the child and parents, the act of paternity establishment itself provides additional benefit dollars for distribution to the most needy families.

Participation by the birth hospital is essential. More than 75 percent of the paternities established in Oregon started at the hospital with an acknowledgment of paternity. Oregon needs facility acknowledgments of paternity to average above 80 percent of the current births to be confident we can meet the federal requirement of 90 percent. The remaining paternities come from administrative orders, notarized paternity acknowledgments, and court orders.

A table that reports paternity establishment percentages by facility follows. We would like to recognize the facilities that met or exceeded the 80 percent goal.

Facilities with **more than 500 births** to unwed mothers annually:

- Silverton Hospital

Facilities with **100 to 499 births** to unwed mothers annually

- Grande Ronde Hospital, Inc.
- Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital and Medical Center
- Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital

- Providence Milwaukie Hospital
- Providence Newberg Medical Center

Facilities with **fewer than 100 births** to unwed mothers annually:

- Curry General Hospital
- Harney District Hospital
- Lake District Hospital
- Tillamook County General Hospital
- Wallowa Memorial Hospital

Eight licensed freestanding birthing centers also excelled at paternity establishment:

- Andaluz Waterbirth Center – Portland
- Andaluz Waterbirth Center – Tualatin
- Home Sweet Home Birth Center
- Motherwise Community Birth Center
- Natural Childbirth & Family Clinic
- PeaceHealth Medical Group Nurse Midwifery Birth Center
- Sacred Waters Birthing Center
- Trillium Waterbirth Center

Please keep up the good work. If you want to increase the number of paternities at your facility, talk with us about how we can work together to establish paternities more effectively.

Call us with any questions or for more information:

Judy A. Shioishi, Vital Records Field Liaison at 971-673-1166

Debbie Gott, Vital Records Paternity Specialist at 971-673-1155

Bill Cooksey, Child Support Performance Analysis Manager at 971-673-1681

Paternity establishment by birth facility for 2012 records through October 2012				
County and Facility		Total Unwed Births	AOP signed at the hospital	
		Count	Count	%
Baker	Saint Alphonsus Medical Center - Baker City, Inc	52	33	63.5%
Benton	Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center	194	153	78.9%
Clackamas	Kaiser Sunnyside Medical Center	438	346	79.0%
	Legacy Meridian Park Hospital	164	119	72.6%
	Providence Milwaukie Hospital	164	133	81.1%
	Providence Willamette Falls Medical Center	260	184	70.8%
Clatsop	Columbia Memorial Hospital	125	88	70.4%
	Providence Seaside Hospital	35	24	68.6%
Coos	Bay Area Hospital	258	199	77.1%
	Coquille Valley Hospital	12	9	75.0%
Curry	Curry General Hospital	34	28	82.4%
Deschutes	Bend Birth Center	3	2	66.7%
	Motherwise Community Birth Center	2	2	100.0%
	St. Charles Medical Center - Bend	412	322	78.2%
	St. Charles Medical Center - Redmond	124	90	72.6%
Douglas	Mercy Medical Center, Inc.	402	288	71.6%
Grant	Blue Mountain Hospital District	8	5	62.5%
Harney	Harney District Hospital	18	17	94.4%
Hood River	Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital	131	109	83.2%
Jackson	Ashland Community Hospital	90	69	76.7%
	Providence Medford Medical Center	179	130	72.6%
	Rogue Valley Medical Center	530	393	74.2%
	Trillium Waterbirth Center	9	8	88.9%
Jefferson	Mountain View Hospital District	83	64	77.1%
Josephine	Three Rivers Community Hospital & Health Center	314	237	75.5%
Klamath	Sky Lakes Medical Center	299	222	74.2%
Lake	Lake District Hospital	13	12	92.3%
Lane	McKenzie-Willamette Medical Center	216	152	70.4%
	Nurse Midwifery Birth Center	19	18	94.7%
	Peace Harbor Hospital	18	13	72.2%
	Sacred Heart - River Bend	868	669	77.1%
	Sacred Waters Birthing Center	3	3	100.0%

Lincoln	Home Sweet Home Birth Center	6	5	83.3%
	Samaritan North Lincoln Hospital	66	49	74.2%
	Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital	87	62	71.3%
Linn	Growing Family Birth Center	3	1	33.3%
	Samaritan Albany General Hospital	232	164	70.7%
	Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital	115	89	77.4%
Malheur	Saint Alphonsus Medical Center - Ontario, Inc	238	174	73.1%
Marion	Salem Hospital	1086	801	73.8%
	Santiam Memorial Hospital	51	36	70.6%
	Silverton Hospital	539	434	80.5%
Multnomah	Adventist Medical Center	349	237	67.9%
	Alma Midwifery Services	15	11	73.3%
	Andaluz Waterbirth Center - Portland	9	8	88.9%
	Legacy Emanuel Hospital & Health Center	640	411	64.2%
	Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital and Medical Center	165	132	80.0%
	Legacy Mt. Hood Medical Center	300	231	77.0%
	Natural Childbirth and Family Clinic	2	2	100.0%
	OHSU Hospitals & Clinics	693	514	74.2%
	Providence Portland Medical Center	706	468	66.3%
Tillamook	Tillamook County General Hospital	64	54	84.4%
Umatilla	Good Shepherd Medical Center	250	186	74.4%
	St. Anthony Hospital	159	109	68.6%
Union	Grande Ronde Hospital, Inc	93	76	81.7%
Wallowa	Wallowa Memorial Hospital	10	9	90.0%
Wasco	Mid-Columbia Medical Center	124	93	75.0%
Washington	Andaluz Waterbirth Center - Tualatin	5	5	100.0%
	Providence St. Vincent Medical Center	1042	806	77.4%
	Tuality Community Hospital - Hillsboro	385	285	74.0%
Yamhill	Bella Vie Gentle Birth Center	5	2	40.0%
	Providence Newberg Medical Center	138	114	82.6%
	Willamette Valley Medical Center	189	121	64.0%



More Staff for the OVERS Help Desk Phone Line

If you call the OVERS help desk phone line for assistance, you may notice a new voice. Dani Hall and Carolyn Hogg have joined the OVERS team full time for the next 9 months. Both Dani and Carolyn have worked in vital records for several years and come to the OVERS team with prior experience in using the OVERS application. We have added Dani and Carolyn to the help

desk to support an increase in call volume that we anticipate in the coming year. The increased demand is due to the addition of four to five thousand new users who will begin using OVERS in January 2013. As the new users become accustomed to OVERS, we expect the help desk call volume to taper off in the following months. ❖

Helpful Information for Phone Messages

In order to better assist you, please provide us with the following information when leaving Vital Records staff a phone message:

- Case id
- Name on record
- Date of event
- Brief explanation of concern
- Caller's name and phone number where we can reach you

This will help us to research your concern and be prepared when we return your phone call. ❖

Wanted—Newsletter topics

Have a question or idea for a future newsletter article? Contact JoAnn Jackson at 971-673-1160 or JoAnn.Jackson@state.or.us. JoAnn collects ideas for articles and then shares them with the writing team.

Thank you to the contributors of this newsletter:

Karen Hampton, JoAnn Jackson, Carol Sanders, Karen Rangan, Megan Welter, Sheila Vu, Sarah Hargand, Cynthia Roeser, Amanda Vega, Kerry Lionadh, Lynda Jackson, Becki Buskirk, Jennifer Woodward.

Have a question? Try asking one of the helpful CHS staff listed below.

Frequent Contacts

Paternalities

Debbie Gott
971-673-1155

Birth Corrections

<1 year, Amanda Vega
971-673-1169
1+year, Johanna Collins
971-673-1137

Death Corrections

Patty Thompson
971-673-1163

Filiations

Tony Bojanowski
971-673-1143

Adoptions

Debbie Draghia
971-673-1152

Delayed Filings

Becki Buskirk
971-673-1147

OVERS Helpdesk

971-673-0279

CHS Managers

State Registrar

Jennifer Woodward
971-673-1185

Amendments/Certification Manager

Carol Sanders
971-673-1178

Statistics Manager

Joyce Grant-Worley
971-673-1156

Registration Manager

JoAnn Jackson
971-673-1160

OVERS Manager

Karen Hampton
971-673-1191

Data Processing Supervisor

Cynthia Roeser
971-673-0478

Certification Supervisor

Karen Rangan
971-673-1182

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Suite 225
Portland, OR 97232-2162

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 14050
Portland, OR 97293-0050

General info: 971-673-1180

Order vital records: 1-888-896-4988

Website: <http://public.health.oregon.gov/BirthDeathCertificates>

OVERS website: <http://healthoregon.org/overs>

