

Coordination among Public Health Nurse Home Visiting Programs and Family Connects Oregon (FCO) Providers

Guidance for local programs implementing Babies First!, CaCoon, or Nurse-Family Partnership in counties with FCO in their service area and/or FCO Providers.

Updated: May 2026

As Family Connects is implemented in Oregon, we are working towards building a home visiting system that supports all families. Offering Family Connects Oregon services to all families of newborns is a priority; however, there will be a variety of ways in which a family enters public health nurse (PHN) home visiting programs, and not all programs are available in every community. Coordination between local home visiting programs and providers supports more accessible, equitable, and integrated care for families.

Initial entry into a Public Health Nurse Home Visiting program

Prenatal entry

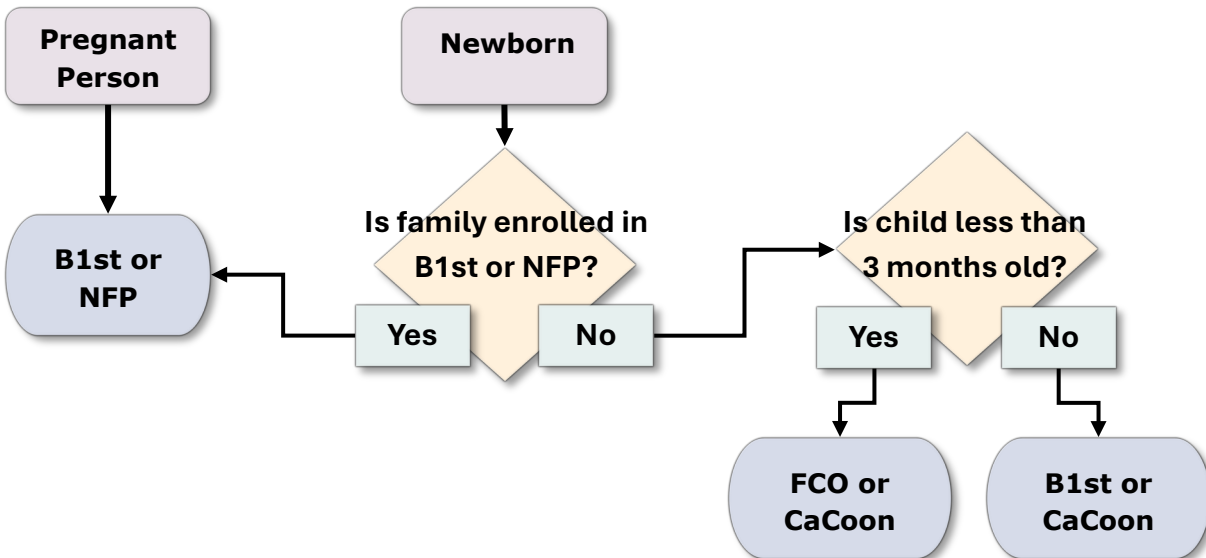
Babies First! or Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) are prenatal entry points into a public health nurse home visiting program. Services are offered to pregnant people meeting the [program eligibility criteria](#).

Newborn entry (birth to 3 months)

Family Connects Oregon is the post-birth entry point into a nurse home visiting program. Family Connects services are universally offered to all families with a newborn who are not already enrolled in Babies First! or NFP. Newborns with known CaCoon eligibility at birth may be offered direct entry into the CaCoon program to expediate specialized case management services.

Infant or child entry (over 3 months of age)

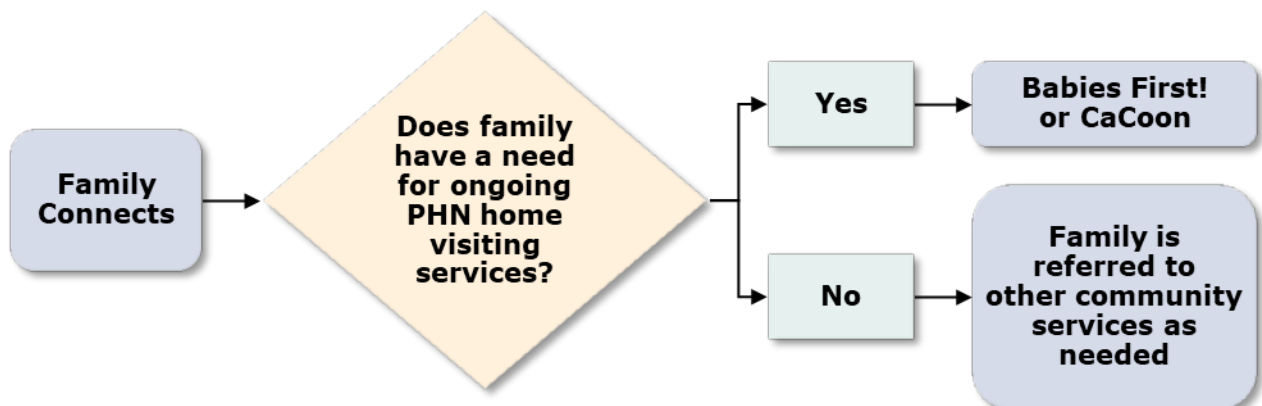
Babies First! or CaCoon services may be offered to infants and children (and their caregivers) over 3 months of age meeting the [program eligibility criteria](#).



Ongoing services in a Public Health Nurse Home Visiting Program

A family enrolled in Babies First! or NFP prenatally will continue to receive postpartum services and will not be offered Family Connects services. Families enrolled in Babies First! or NFP prenatally will be excluded from the Family Connects eligible birth population data.

A family that has received Family Connects services and has a need for ongoing PHN home visiting services may be referred to Babies First! or CaCoon. Family Connects Home Visitors should complete the Integrated Home Visits (IHV) and any short-term follow-up to address an immediate need and then refer to Babies First! or CaCoon. THEO data entry for the first Babies First!/CaCoon visit should indicate the referral source as Family Connects.



Initial Babies First!/CaCoon Home Visit following Family Connects services

Depending on how staff are trained and teams are organized, the same PHN may provide Family Connects services and Babies First! or CaCoon services to the family, or the Family Connects PHN may transfer services to another PHN providing B1st or CaCoon. If services are transferred to a different agency, appropriate policies and procedures must be established to facilitate the secure exchange of health information between providers. Procedures that direct FCO Providers to send information about the FCO home visit at the time of the referral are encouraged.

Targeted Case Management (TCM)

Review the TCM assessment and plan that were completed on the Family Connects visit(s) to determine if there are any updates or changes needed. A new TCM assessment and plan for the newborn are not required. If a new TCM assessment and plan are not completed, medical record documentation for the Babies First!/CaCoon home visit should include the TCM assessment and plan, reference the review, and any updates to the TCM assessment and plan completed on the Family Connects visit(s).

Keep in mind that during a Family Connects visit, TCM services will only be reimbursed for the infant (TCM documentation on the parent/caregiver is not required). If a parent/caregiver is enrolled, a TCM assessment and plan for the parent/caregiver needs to be completed prior to billing for TCM services for the parent/caregiver.

Physical Assessments, Screenings and the Nursing Care Plan

Review the postpartum health history and physical assessment and newborn physical assessment completed on the Family Connects home visit. The initial Babies First! or CaCoon visit may include a focused assessment on areas of identified need and review of any changes since the Family Connects visit. Documentation of the assessments completed, and any concerns related to the assessment at the Family Connects home visit should be included in the record. If documentation is not available, a lot of time has passed between visits, or the clients circumstances have changed, repeating assessments may be indicated. Blood pressure should be assessed at every visit until 6 weeks post-partum for all post-partum clients and until hypertension resolved in hypertensive clients (whichever is longer). Measurements and feeding assessments should be completed at every visit for an infant.

Review the screenings conducted on the Family Connects home visit. If the Babies First! and CaCoon recommended initial screenings were completed during the Family Connects visit,

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they do not need to be repeated unless dictated by the needs of the client. Reasons for omitting or postponing screenings should be clearly documented.

Review the nursing care plan created on the Family Connects Home Visit and make changes as needed. The Oregon Nurse Practice Act requires RNs to “Update and modify the plan of care based on ongoing client assessment and evaluation of data.”

Babies First!/CaCoon home visit medical record documentation should reference the review of assessments, screenings, and plans completed on the Family Connects visit(s).

References:

Oregon Nurse Practice Act, [851-045-0060](#)

[Oregon Targeted Case Management Rules, 410-138-0000 through -0390](#)

[Clinical Guidelines for Nurse Home Visitors Guideline 3: Perinatal Blood Pressure Assessment](#)

[Clinical Guidelines for Nurse Home Visitors Guideline 4: Perinatal Breastfeeding* Promotion and Support](#)

[Clinical Guidelines for Nurse Home Visitors Guideline 13: Newborn, Infant, Toddler History and Physical Assessment](#)