

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) believes that current data show that hospitals and accredited birth centers are the safest settings for birth in the United States. The AAP recognizes that women may choose to plan a home birth.

As board certified pediatricians, we follow the guidelines of the AAP, and our goal is to provide the best possible care for our patients. Excellent care happens when our physicians are aligned with your family priorities and philosophies regarding medical care. To retain our role as child advocates, we believe all newborn patients, regardless of the circumstances of his or her birth, including location, deserve health care consistent with care provided for infants born in a medical care facility.

If you are planning a home birth and would like your newborn to be accepted into our practice, we require that your baby has received all AAP recommended screenings and newborn care, and that you intend to follow AAP guidelines.

We require that you reach out to our practice for pre-registration prior to giving birth.

AAP recommended screenings and newborn care required, prior to your first visit with us:

- Vitamin K injection
- Glucose Screening
- Eye Prophylaxis (ointment)
- Hepatitis B vaccine (or given at first visit with us)
- Congenital heart disease screening
- PA metabolic screening
- Follow-up visit with a weight check within 24 to 36 hours of birth (with midwife or JDC)

Additionally, we require you to:

- Schedule your newborn's first routine checkup with JDC within 3 to 5 days of life.

We are unable to schedule your newborn without the records from your midwife's office. Please have these sent to our fax number, (717) 791-2686. The records must include the Group B Strep results and all records from birth and follow-up visits.

<https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/article/145/5/e20200626/36807/Providing-Care-for-Infants-Born-at-Home?autologincheck=redirected>