



TOBY DOUGLAS
DIRECTOR

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

May 9, 2016

Dear NICU Medical Director and Hospital Administrator,

Thank you for your ongoing participation in our California Children's Services (CCS) Program, with approval of your Local Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) to provide care. One of the requirements for maintaining CCS-approval of your hospital's Local NICU is annual submission of all data elements constituting the annual California Perinatal Quality Care Collaborative (CPQCC)/CCS NICU Report. In many hospitals, all these data elements are submitted by the NICU data reporting team.

The CPQCC Data Center has informed us that some Co-Located Hospital administrations do not grant their local NICU data reporting team access to certain required data elements. These locally restricted elements include: total live births by birthweight AND gestational age, delivery room deaths by birthweight, and inborn admissions by birthweight AND gestational age to the NICU. Every CCS-approved NICU operates in a CCS-approved Co-Located Hospital. Therefore, there are no HIPAA compliance issues with reporting these data.

Each hospital must ensure that all data elements required for annual CPQCC/CCS NICU reporting are reported according to the schedule stipulated by the CPQCC Data Center. A Co-Located Hospital that does not grant its local NICU data reporting team access to specific required data elements must have an alternate functioning mechanism for accurate and timely reporting of this information to the CPQCC Data Center.

Sincerely,

Robert Dimand, MD
Chief Medical Officer
California Children's Services

Joseph Schulman, MD MS
Director, NICU Quality
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California Children's Services