



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



EDMUND G. BROWN JR  
GOVERNOR

**DATE:** March 11, 2014 N.L.: 03-0314  
Index: Standards for Neonatal  
Intensive Care Units

**TO:** ALL COUNTY CALIFORNIA CHILDREN'S SERVICES (CCS)  
PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS, MEDICAL CONSULTANTS, AND  
STATE CHILDREN'S MEDICAL SERVICES (CMS) STAFF

**SUBJECT:** STANDARDS FOR NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT (NICU)

**I. BACKGROUND**

The purpose of this Numbered Letter (N.L.) is to provide updated requirements for:

- A. NICU General Policies and Procedures
- B. NICU Neonatologist Staff

This N.L should be used in conjunction with CCS Manual of Procedures, Chapter 3 – Provider Standards, Sections 3.25.1, 3.25.2, and 3.25.3: Standards for NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT (NICU)

**II. POLICY**

The following updates are effective on the date of this letter.

- A. General Policies and Procedures
  - 1. CCS NICU Standards Section 3.25.(1)(2)(3).H., General Policies and Procedures, are updated as follows:
    - a. Every NICU shall maintain a Policies and Procedures Manual specific to the approved range and level of services. Every two (2) years, the medical director and nurse manager shall update, review, and sign each component document.

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B. NICU Neonatologist Staff

1. Professional Board certification requirements, Section 3.25.(1)(2)(3).F.1.2, are updated as follows:
  - b. Each associate neonatologist shall be certified by the American Board of Pediatrics Sub-Board of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine. Current policies of the American Board of Pediatrics for the subspecialty of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine determine the time limit for eligibility for initial certification, for maintenance of certification, and for board status.

**III. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION**

- A. Only the particular elements of the the CCS Program's NICU Standards specifically addressed in this N.L. are affected. All other CCS Program NICU Standards remain in effect.

If you have any questions regarding this N. L, please contact  
Dr. Joseph Schulman, M.D., MS, at (916) 327-2487 or via e-mail at

[Joseph.Schulman@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:Joseph.Schulman@dhcs.ca.gov).

Sincerely, \_\_\_\_\_

Original signed by Robert J. Dimand, M.D.

Robert J. Dimand, M.D.  
Chief Medical Officer  
California Children's Service