

Protection from Hospitals for Expectant Mothers

by Gary Krasner, Director, Coalition for Informed Choice

Expectant mothers should contact the hospital administrator or patient representative of the hospital where they plan to give birth, to forestall the possibility of being reported to Children's Protective Services for choosing not to vaccinate their newborn with the Hepatitis-B vaccine. The aim is to settle any potential problems BEFORE entering the hospital.

Find an M.D. willing to sign the statement below, or something like it, and send it via notarized and registered mail to the patient representative or hospital administrator.

Dear Hospital Administrator,

This note is to certify the following:

1. Mr. and Mrs. Smith retained me as their family physician on [date].
2. Their aim was to have ready a clinician in private practice for the baby they're expecting.
3. The consultations I had with the Smiths focused on proper pre and post-natal nutrition, and standard screenings for neonatal diseases.
4. In the area of medical prophylaxis, I learned that there has been a history of moderate to severe adverse reactions to childhood vaccinations from both sides of the immediate family. Based on this familial susceptibility to reactions, I feel there exists a higher than normal probability of adverse reactions in the Smith's newborn, and therefore I advised the Smiths that they should delay vaccinations for their baby until his/her immune system is further developed. The Smiths did their own research on the matter and concurred.
5. Our next appointment is scheduled following the birth, upon which we'll review an alternative schedule of childhood vaccinations that is most appropriate for their infant.
6. In summation, I found Mr. and Mrs. Smith had a genuine and commendable interest in the health and welfare of their expectant baby. Their review of the medical information I supplied, and their decision-making process appeared to me to be prudent, conscientious, and above all, medically appropriate for their baby.

Sincerely,
John Doe, MD

Your cover letter should read:

Dear Hospital Administrator,

Please read the attached letter. If you have no response to it within the next two weeks, I will assume you have no objections to our decision not to vaccinate

our newborn at this time, and that you have no questions regarding our decision.

Sincerely,
[Parents]

If you cannot find a physician to write a letter, you should write the following letter yourself:

Dear Hospital Administrator,

I'm scheduled to give birth at _____Hospital on _____ [date].

Recently, I retained the services of a pediatrician for consultations on proper pre and post-natal nutrition and standard screenings for neonatal diseases. When the physician learned that there has been a history of moderate to severe adverse reactions to childhood vaccinations from both sides of the immediate family, and other indications of risk, he recommended a modified vaccination schedule for my infant. I believe this advice is prudent, conscientious, and above all, medically appropriate for my baby.

If you do not share this assessment, I need to know that now, well before I give birth, so I can make alternate arrangements. If you do not respond to this letter within the next two weeks, I will assume you have no objections to my wish not to vaccinate my newborn at this time, and that you have no questions regarding this decision.

Sincerely,
[Parents]