

Beaumont®

Subject Surrender of Newborn		No. 321	Page 1 of 1
Content Expert(s) Medical Administration	Prior Issue Date 08/28/12	Issue Date 09/11/15	

GENERAL INFORMATION

Effective January 1, 2001 a parent may surrender a newborn (newborn is less than 72 hours old) to an emergency service provider, without expressing intent to return. For the purpose of this policy an emergency service provider is a uniformed or otherwise identified hospital employee who is on duty and on the premises (hospital campus). The emergency service provider shall, without a court order, immediately accept the newborn into temporary protective custody.

The hospital and hospital personnel are immune from prosecution in accepting or transferring a newborn under this statute except for acts of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

If a newborn is found abandoned on the hospital property, the child abuse and neglect policy will be followed. In such circumstances the safe delivery of newborns legislation does not apply.

If anyone reasonably suspected of being other than a parent attempts to surrender a newborn, hospital security and the local police should be notified immediately.

A parent may also surrender their newborn after they deliver the newborn in the hospital. Refer to section Newborns Delivered in Hospital, 321-1.

A baby born alive as a result of an abortion attempt and brought to the Hospital for care shall be treated as a surrendered newborn in accordance with Procedure 321-1, even if a parent does not personally make the surrender. The law prohibits Beaumont from making any direct communication with the parent in these cases. The law also recognizes that these infants may have only a very limited chance of ultimate survival because of gestational age at birth and therefore only obligates the hospital to provide humane comfort care under these circumstances.

PROCEDURE

Surrendering a Newborn, 321-1.

Further information including copies of all state documents and the Michigan Response and Resource Handbook: Safe Delivery of Newborns is available at the Safe Delivery website at www.michigan.gov/dhs.

PATIENT CARE – CORPORATE POLICIES

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