

Accurate Hospital Reporting of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome in
Illinois Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes Reporting System (APORS)

Introduction: This is a tool for Illinois birthing and children’s hospitals to facilitate accurate reporting of diagnoses, symptoms, and substance exposures of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS); newborn withdrawal symptoms, including from therapeutic use of drugs in newborn; and substance exposure causing neurobehavioral abnormalities in the Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes Reporting System (APORS).

Goal: Report consistent statewide data on NAS across birthing hospitals to identify and refer infants who require special services and ensure accurate population level data on the problem of NAS. The Illinois Perinatal Quality Collaborative’s (ILPQC) Mothers and Newborns affected by Opioids (MNO) Neonatal Initiative facilitates hospital improvement efforts in the standardized identification and assessment of NAS signs and symptoms for Substance-Exposed Newborns (SENs). **The following table links identification of SENs to accurate reporting in APORS.**

Standardized Identification and Reporting of NAS Signs and Symptoms for Opioid or other Substance-Exposed Newborns (SENs)		
A: ILPQC/IDPH: How was Substance-Exposed Newborn Identified?	B: APORS: Did the newborn have symptoms associated with the substance exposure?	C: APORS: What is the diagnosis and corresponding substance exposure
SEN identified via: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mothers who screened positive for OUD prenatally or on L&D, prior to delivery identified; • Mothers who present to L&D or Birthing Center for evaluation or urgent antepartum assessment (via IDPH NAS AC Decision Tree) 	Yes, infant has symptoms associated with substance exposure other than alcohol or marijuana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neonatal withdrawal/abstinence syndrome (NAS)* • Withdrawal from therapeutic use of drugs in newborn • Neonatal withdrawal symptoms (NAS not diagnosed) • Substance exposure causing neurobehavioral abnormality (choose 1)
	Yes, infant has symptoms associated with alcohol exposure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fetal alcohol syndrome • Alcohol exposure affecting infant[§] (Choose 1)
	No, infant has substance exposure (other than alcohol and marijuana), but no symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive neonatal or maternal toxicology screen[†], or disclosure of illicit drug use

**Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome refers to the collection of signs and symptoms that occur when a newborn prenatally exposed to prescribed, diverted, or illicit opiates experiences opioid withdrawal. This syndrome is primarily characterized by irritability, tremors, feeding problems, vomiting, diarrhea, sweating, and, in some cases, seizures. (IDPH NAS Advisory Committee Definition)*

§ Alcohol exposure affecting infant does not meet the APORS case definition, but could be included on a report based on a reportable condition.

† Positive neonatal or maternal toxicology screen attributable to drugs administered during labor and delivery are not reportable

Standardizing Documentation of Newborn Substance Exposure and Symptoms:

After a substance exposed newborn has been discharged, the next step is to accurately document this information in the IVRS birth certificate and submit a case to the IL APORS system.

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- APORS data can be reported via an electronic or paper form. An APORS reporter at your hospital will manually generate an electronic or paper case.
- In some instances, APORS will generate automatic cases when certain criteria are met as input in the birth certificate/IVRS (i.e. <31 completed weeks gestational age, triplet or higher order birth, congenital anomaly, death before birth certificate is filed).
- Substance exposure and NAS do not generate automatic APORS cases, so your hospital's APORS reporter will need to manually generate an APORS case (unless other criteria are met).

APORS Electronic Form

- **Condition (including congenital anomalies):** Enter diagnoses into this section. In regards to newborn substance exposure, please refer to columns B – C on the reverse to accurately report newborn diagnoses
- **Further condition details:** Enter the drug toxicities (substance exposures) in this section.

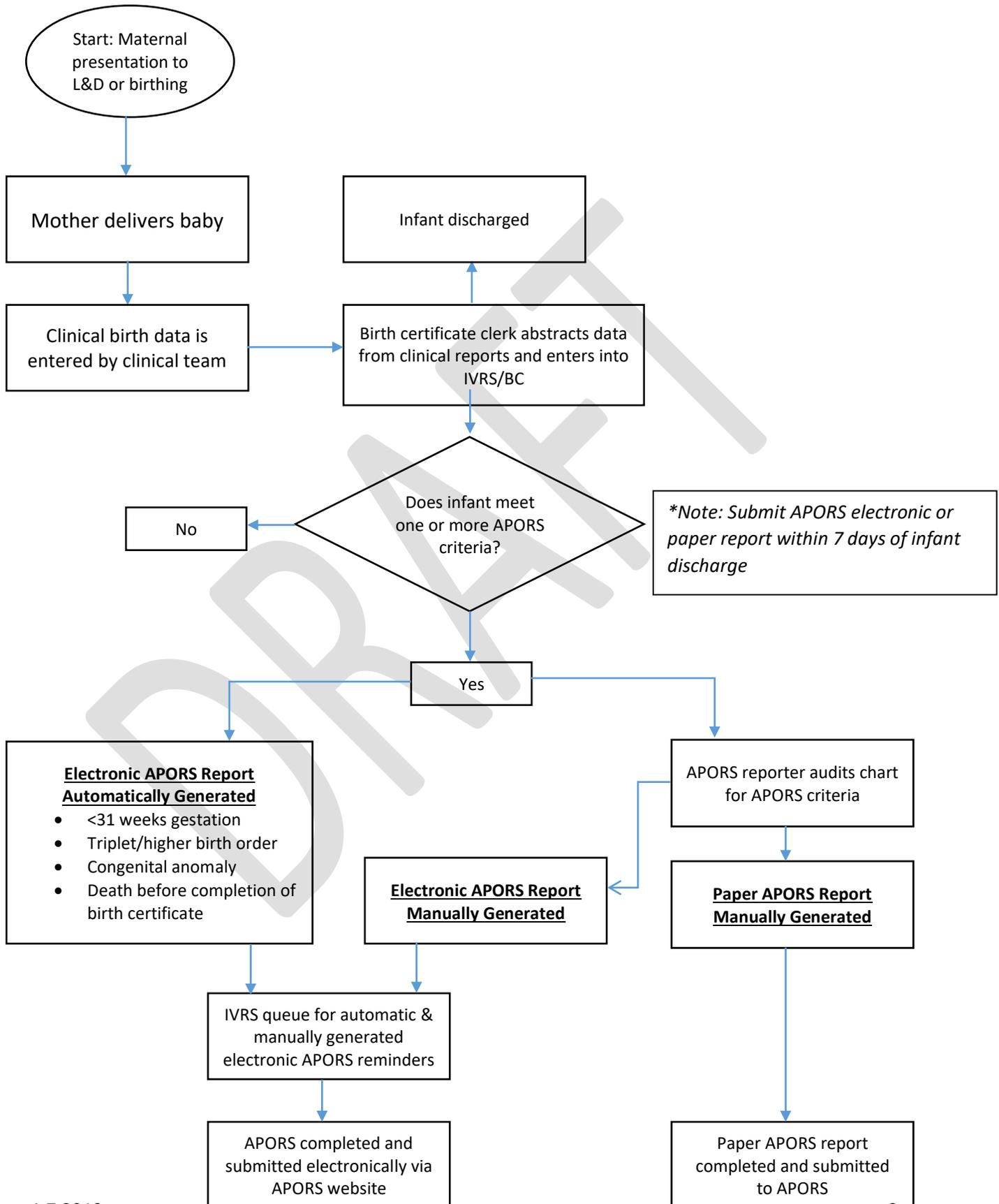
APORS Paper Form

INFANT	SEX	RACE	HISPANIC	ADMIT TO INTENSIVE CARE UNIT	DRUG TOXICITY	MATERNAL HBsAg
	1 Male	1 White	1 Yes	1 Yes	1 Yes	2 Negative
	2 Female	2 Black	2 No	0 Opioid	3 Cannabis	or
	3 Ambiguous	3 Asian	9 N/A	1 Barbiturate	4 Other	No Test
		4 Other		2 Cocaine	5 Mixed	
	GESTATIONAL AGE _____ weeks		BIRTH WEIGHT _____ grams		BIRTH ____ of ____	
	DIAGNOSES (including congenital anomalies)		(IDPH ONLY)		(IDPH ONLY)	

- **Diagnoses (including congenital anomalies):** Enter diagnoses into this section. In regards to newborn substance exposure, please refer to columns B – C on the reverse to accurately report newborn diagnoses
- **Drug Toxicity (Substance Exposures):** Enter the drug toxicities (substance exposures) in this section. Circle '0' for Opioid exposures.

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APORS General Data Reporting Workflow for Hospital Teams



Accurate Hospital Reporting of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome in Illinois Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes Reporting System (APORS)

APORS Data Reporting Workflow for Substance-Exposed Newborns for Hospital Teams

