Standard Risk Assessment to Identify Substance Exposed Newborn Mother’s Algorithm

Conduct the Standard SEN Risk Assessment

At Risk
- Notify OB-Gyn of at risk status & obtain order for urine drug test
- Refer to Medical Social Worker to initiate family assessment, complete maternal depression screen and develop Safe Care Plan
- Notify mother of SEN concern, hospital policy, and baby’s pending urine drug screen
- Obtain signed consent for maternal urine drug test from mom

Consent Denied

Consent Signed

Send maternal urine for drug panel if consent*
Add other tests as indicated***

Drug Panel negative
- Social Work to complete Safe Care Plan prior to nursery discharge (determine need to refer to DHS and their SEN team)
- Notify baby’s PCP of baby’s discharge & Safe Care Plan

Drug Panel(s) positive
- Social Work to complete Safe Care Plan prior to NB discharge (include plan for follow up by baby’s PCP)
- Make referral to DHS (request their SEN team)
- Notify baby’s PCP of baby’s discharge & Safe Care Plan
- Refer mother to treatment: illicit/ recreational drug, misuse of prescription medication, heavy alcohol use.

Further Action as per Safe Care Plan

If positive test results from urine return after discharge, MSW to refer to DHS (request their SEN team) & notify PCP

Low Risk
- Provide brief educational intervention: alcohol/drug use.

No additional actions

Acronym Chart:
SEN=Substance Exposed Newborn
PCP=Primary Care Physician
OB-GYN=Obstetrics & Gynecology
DHS=Dept of Human Services
GCMS=Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry
MSW=Medical Social Worker

* Maternal drug panel DAS9UE= Amphetamines, barbiturates, benzodiazepines, cannabinoids, cocaine, ethyl alcohol, methadone, opiates, propoxyphene (OML code 38655).

*** If prenatal use of a drug not on the drug panel is suspected, add that drug test.