

*Bridges For  
Medically High Risk  
Newborns*

*County of Orange  
Health Care Agency*



**Vision**

*Health is the realization of complete physical,  
emotional, intellectual  
and  
spiritual well-being.  
(World Health Organization)*

*Bridges For Medically High Risk Newborns*

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*HCA Public Health  
Community Nursing*

*(Revised 11/09)*

The Medically High Risk Newborn Program is a County Program and is funded by The Children & Families Commission of Orange County. The program is offered to all eligible Orange County infants from birth to 36 months. Public health nurses will provide nursing expertise in the home, including case management, client advocacy, and community resources. The Public Health Nurse (PHN) is a professional Registered Nurse with a Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing and a Public Health Nurse Certificate with an emphasis in community health.

### Public Health Community Nursing Services Include:

- Complete assessment of client and caregivers.
- Teaching on actual and potential problems.
- Referring to appropriate agencies that enhance and support client's needs.
- Case management and home visits.
- Evaluating goals and needs.
- Anticipatory guidance.

### The Medically High Risk Newborn Program (MHRN) Goals are:

- To prevent or minimize developmental and/or physical delays.
- To coordinate with other agencies in managing the health of our clients.
- To provide nursing support services to clients and their caregivers.
- To promote optimal health and development.

## MHRN Eligibility Criteria

### Prematurity

**Very** low birth weight

**Significantly** SGA (Small for gestational age) failure to thrive, IUGR (Intrauterine growth retardation)

**Prolonged** hypoxemia, acidemia, repetitive apnea, required assisted ventilation >40 hours

**Metabolic** problems, i.e.: hypoglycemia, hypocalcemia, persistent hyperbilirubinemia

**Poor or potential** for poor parent-infant attachment or other factors that hinder mother-infant bonding; chronic illness, depression unwanted pregnancy, complicated labor maternal teen age or old age with first infant, history or abuse

**Neonatal** seizures or seizures beyond the neonatal period

**Serious** biomedical insult, i.e.: CNS bleeds, RDS (Respiratory Distress Syndrome) confirmed infection, chronic lung disease

**Congenital** and or genetic anomalies requiring special services

**History** of maternal chemical exposure and/or substance abuse, i.e.: alcohol, hydantoin, warfarin, and cocaine

**Persistent** feeding problems

**Persistent** tonal problems

**Continued** evidence of delay in one or more developmental areas

**At risk** for diabetes related LGA; maternal gestational diabetes or family with obesity

**Parents** with previous loss from SIDS or child with autism. Poor infant/parent attachment.

## Participating Bridges Hospitals are:

Anaheim Memorial Medical Center, Coastal Communities Hospital, Garden Grove Medical Hospital, Fountain Valley Hospital, Hoag Memorial Hospital, Mission Hospital Regional Medical Center, Saddleback Memorial Medical Center, St. Joseph Hospital, St Jude Hospital, Western Medical Center-Anaheim, Western Medical Center-Santa Ana.

**Bridges providers:** (Low risk) St. Jude, Children's Bureau, MOMS, OC Child Abuse Prevention Center, Hoag.

**Other Participating Hospitals:** UCIMC and Children Hospital of Orange County (CHOC)

## There are four areas that service all of Orange County.

**North Area** ..... (714)834-7747  
 Cities in this area: Anaheim, Buena Park, Cypress, Fullerton, La Palma, Villa Park, Yorba Linda

**Central Area**..... (714) 834-8498  
 Cities in this area: Fountain Valley, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Los Alamitos, Orange, Santa Ana, Seal Beach, Stanton, Westminster

**South Area** ..... (714)834-7747  
 Cities in this area: Aliso Viejo, Costa Mesa, Coto de Caza, Dana Point, Irvine, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Laguna Woods, Lake Forest, Newport Beach, Newport Coast, Mission Viejo, Rancho Santa Margarita, San Clemente, San Juan Capistrano, Tustin, Unincorporated Areas

**Districting Area** ... (714) 834-8194  
 Cities in this area: Brea, La Habra, Placentia