

 **STATE OF NEW YORK**
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Corning Tower

The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza

Albany, New York 12237

Antonia C. Novello, M.D., M.P.H., Dr.P.H.
Commissioner

Dennis P. Whalen
Executive Deputy Commissioner

October 12, 2006

Dear Colleague:

I am pleased to announce that the Statewide Perinatal Data System (SPDS) regulations, section 400.22 of Title 10, have been adopted. The regulations are effective upon publication in the New York State Register on October 10, 2006. I have enclosed a text copy of the new regulations and encourage you to begin to review your perinatal services in the context of these regulations.

The majority of hospitals are already in compliance with these regulations. Hospitals that are not in compliance must develop a strategy to come into compliance. The regulations require that the core module of the SPDS be utilized by all hospitals with obstetric services outside of New York City, as of October 10, 2006. Those hospitals within New York City must begin to use the SPDS core module by January 1, 2007, unless a waiver to delay the implementation until January 1, 2008 is filed by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. The regulations require all obstetric hospitals in the state (even for New York City, in the event of a waiver) with a level 2 or higher perinatal designation, to utilize the NICU module effective on the date of publication.

We appreciate your interest and participation in the development of these regulations. We urge all hospitals to take the necessary steps to come into compliance with these regulations and encourage Regional Perinatal Centers to work with their affiliate hospitals to assist them in this process. If you have any questions about the regulations, please contact Catherine McGuire in the Perinatal Health Unit of the Bureau of Women's Health, at 518-474-1911 or by e-mail cdm02@health.state.ny.us.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Brustman
Director
Bureau of Women's Health

enclosure