



SOUTH ISLAND ALLIANCE

**Safe Sleep for Infants from Birth to Six Months Policy
Implementation Action Plan
October 2013 – May 2014**

Babies sleep safely when they are on their back and can breathe easily

Key areas for action

1. Regional safe sleep policy for infants from birth to six months is signed off by the Alliance leadership Team
2. A regional implementation plan and key performance measures are developed in conjunction with Change for Our Children and all relevant stakeholders (eg. DHBs, regional College of Midwifery, Plunket)
3. Training and education resources are used and shared
4. Safe infant sleep messaging strategies shared to ensure health care professionals and workers are competent to model safe infant sleep behaviour
5. Families/whanau are educated about safe sleeping and the hazards that arise in some sleeping situations
6. DHB service providers support the provision of safe sleeping environment for all infants in hospital and after they are discharged home
7. DHBs undertake regular audit activities to support quality care and ensure policy compliance



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1. Regional safe sleep policy for infants from birth to six months is signed off by the Alliance leadership Team

Actions to Deliver	Lead	Measured By
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree implementation plan and key implementation measures 	CH workstream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy and implementation plan to ALT with recommendations for sign-off

2. A regional implementation plan and key performance measures are developed in conjunction with Change for Our Children and all relevant stakeholders

Actions to Deliver	Lead	Measured By
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree key performance measures DHBs establish Safe Sleep implementation group 	CH workstream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal audit tool of DHB practices, training and skills implemented Systems to monitor community sleep outcomes e.g. via Plunket SUDI rates measured by ethnicity, DHB, risk factors Clinical leadership within each DHB (eg. safe sleep champions)

3. Training and education resources are used and shared

Actions to Deliver	Lead	Measured By
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver training and education for staff who work in settings where women and infants could be present to support them in safe sleep practices using agreed resources (Change of Our Children and MoH) Identify clinical champions in each DHB to support staff training (time limited) DHBs encourage and support staff to use the various training and e- 	CH workstream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training inventory for staff. Monitor access to web based learning e.g. Baby Essentials, Whakawhetu e-learning Evaluation of feedback on resources used to refine training Establish a regional web-based training and education resource available on SI Alliance website



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learning resources. • Safe sleep information is incorporated into ante-natal programmes	http://www.sialliance.health.nz/Our-Priorities/Child-Health/
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4. Safe infant sleep messaging strategies shared to ensure health care professionals and workers are competent to model safe infant sleep behaviour

Actions to Deliver	Lead	Measured By
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistent messaging tools developed using across DHBs Action DHB safe sleep campaign through quality improvement teams 	CH workstream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key message resources developed and shared with DHBs, LMC, Plunket and GP Safe sleep campaigned held

5. Families/whanau are educated about safe sleeping and the hazards that arise in some sleeping situations

Actions to Deliver	Lead	Measured By
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide and document advice and information material shared on safe sleep and settling infants to mothers, fathers and family/whanau Information about safe sleep needs assessment, planning and actions recorded in case notes Discharge documentation includes safe sleep plan and advice 	CH workstream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit clinical records LMC and well child audit on parental practices / safe sleep environment in the home



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6. DHB service providers support the provision of safe sleeping environment for all infants after they are discharged home

Actions to Deliver	Lead	Measured By
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DHBs implement a process that aims for infants, particularly those at high risk, to have access to safe sleep devices such as standard compliant baby beds or pepi pod or wahakura 	CH workstream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit of safe sleep availability and practices including environment and information material

7. DHBs undertake regular audit activities to ensure policy compliance

Actions to Deliver	Lead	Measured By
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Process is implemented across DHBs to audit safe sleep practices using agreed tools 	CH workstream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit findings are shared across DHBs for quality improvement