

The Texas Health Services Authority's Interoperability Collaborative with the guidance of the Newborn Informatics Workgroup adopted a standardized **temporary newborn naming** convention to improve the clinical data exchange for this fragile population. The standard follows the American Health Information Management Association's, *2026 Patient Naming Framework*. ([2026_patientframingnetwork.pdf](#))

Standard:

Sex in all capitals, if multiple birth numeric representation of birth order, Mother's First Name. No middle name. Mother's Last Name.

Singleton Birth

First Name	Middle Name	Last Name
GIRLKatherine		Miller
BOYKatherine		Miller
BABYKatherine		Miller

Multiple Births

First Name	Middle Name	Last Name
GIRL1Maria		Lopez-Garcia
BOY2Maria		Lopez-Garcia
BABY3Maria		Lopez-Garcia

*BABY used when sex is not determined

Why is this important:

- Delays in care delivery; i.e. emergency transfers between facilities with receiving physicians' delays in accessing birth medical records
- Supports electronic real-time access to clinical records
- Burden of faxing documents and searching through faxed documents
- Delays in care delivery i.e. newborn screening failures with pediatricians or PCPs unable to access results with potential patient harm i.e. hypothyroid with brain cell loss
- Survey of 27 hospitals revealed 23 different temporary naming conventions.
- Changing names i.e. "Baby Girl Samantha Jones" becomes "Mary Smith"
- Lacking referential documents like electric bill, prior addresses or ID Card & persistent unique identifier like Social Security Number or Driver's License

What can you do:

- Adopt this standard
- Encourage your referring partners to adopt