



Defined Scope of Practice
For the Role of
International Certified Newborn Care Specialist (ICNCS)

The scope of practice describes a set of standard services that a newborn care professional, who is educated, trained and deemed competent to perform while on the job. The Newborn Care Specialist profession can be defined as the care of newborns within the home. Routine newborn care skills such as diapering, feeding and sleep conditioning are performed while on the job. Medical care or advanced lactation skills are outside of the scope of practice for newborn care specialists. All newborn care specialists should follow and be updated on all AAP practices and guidelines.

ICNCS are individuals who have completed 20 hours of newborn care education and 1000 contact hours with an infant birth to 4 months of age within a 2 year time frame. These individuals have passed the examination administered by Newborn Care International and have demonstrated competencies to provide evidence based care in the areas of newborn care, sleep conditioning, basic breastfeeding knowledge, premie and multiples care and working with the postpartum family.

ICNCS has demonstrated the readiness to:

- Develop a care plan for a newborn baby.
- Assess needs of newborn who may be at risk and refer out as appropriate.
- Counsel and educate families with evidence based information.
- Provide care for the family as needed within scope of practice.
- Work collaboratively with health care team.
- Adhere to NCI Code of Ethics and professional standards within this code.