

211.660 Kentucky birth surveillance registry -- Department's authority to promulgate administrative regulations.

- (1) The Department for Public Health shall establish and maintain a Kentucky birth surveillance registry that will provide a system for the collection of information concerning birth defects, stillbirths, and high-risk conditions. The system may cover all or part of the Commonwealth.
- (2) In establishing the system, the department may review vital statistics records, and shall also consider expanding the current list of congenital anomalies and high-risk conditions as reported on birth certificates.
- (3)
 - (a) The department may require general acute-care hospitals licensed under KRS Chapter 216B to maintain a list of all inpatients and voluntarily to maintain a list of all outpatients up to the age of five (5) years with a primary diagnosis of a congenital anomaly or high-risk condition as defined by the department upon the recommendation of the appointed advisory committee. Hospital participation regarding its outpatients shall be voluntary and subject to the discretion of each hospital.
 - (b) The department may require medical laboratories licensed under KRS Chapter 333 to maintain medical records for all persons up to the age of five (5) years with a primary diagnosis of or a laboratory test result indicating congenital anomaly or high-risk condition as defined by the department upon the recommendation of the appointed advisory committee.
- (4) Each licensed freestanding birthing center, general acute-care hospital licensed under KRS Chapter 216B, and medical laboratory licensed under KRS Chapter 333 shall grant, if required or otherwise participating voluntarily under the provisions of subsection (3) of this section, to any Kentucky Birth Surveillance Registry personnel or his or her designee, upon presentation of proper identification, access to the medical records of any patient meeting the criteria in subsection (3) of this section. If the department's agent determines that copying of the medical records is necessary, associated costs shall be borne by the Department for Public Health at the rate pursuant to KRS 422.317.
- (5) No liability of any kind, character, damages, or other relief shall arise or be enforced against any licensed freestanding birthing center, general acute-care hospital, or medical laboratory by reason of having provided the information or material to the Kentucky Birth Surveillance Registry.
- (6) The Department for Public Health may implement the provisions of KRS 211.651 to 211.670 through the promulgation of administrative regulations in accordance with the provisions of KRS Chapter 13A.

Effective: June 27, 2025

History: Amended 2025 Ky. Acts ch. 121, sec. 7, effective June 27, 2025. -- Amended 2002 Ky. Acts ch. 287, sec. 1, effective July 15, 2002. -- Amended 1998 Ky. Acts ch. 327, sec. 1, effective July 15, 1998; and ch. 426, sec. 310, effective July 15, 1998. -- Amended 1994 Ky. Acts ch. 405, sec. 77, effective July 15, 1994. -- Created 1992 Ky. Acts ch. 62, sec. 3, effective July 14, 1992.

Legislative Research Commission Note (6/27/2025). 2025 Ky. Acts ch. 121, sec. 24, provides that the Act, which amended this statute, may be cited as the Mary Carol

Akers Birth Centers Act.