DOs & DON'Ts
of Pulse Oximetry Screening

**DOs**

- **DO** Screen while the newborn is awake and calm, if possible. Use a new, clean sensor for each infant.

- **DO** Make sure that the skin is clean and dry before placing the sensor on the newborn. It is okay to screen even if the infant is jaundiced.

- **DO** Use the best sites for screening, which is around the right hand and either foot.

- **DO** Align the emitter with the detector.

- **DO** Use the confidence indicators to ensure an accurate reading.

**DON'Ts**

- **DON'T** Ever use an adult pulse ox clip to screen an infant.

- **DON'T** Attempt to obtain a reading on the same extremity that a blood pressure cuff has been placed.

- **DON'T** Perform the screen in bright or infrared light. It is okay to cover the sensor with a blanket to block the light in order to ensure accuracy.

- **DON'T** Use tape or your own hand to hold the sensor against the infant’s skin.