BRIGHAM AND
WOMEN'S HOSPITAL

75 Francis Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02115

PATIENT IDENTIFICATION AREA

Newborn Nursery Vitamin K Shot Refusal

Brigham and Women's Hospital in accordance with the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that all newborns receive a Vitamin K shot shortly after birth.

Your baby is born with low levels of Vitamin K, which is needed for the blood to clot properly. Without needed levels of Vitamin K, your baby is at risk for Vitamin K deficient bleeding. This condition, while rare, can cause bleeding into any part of the body including the brain, stomach, skin or mucous membranes. The bleeding can be minor or can be very serious, including bleeding into the brain. This can cause life long disability and even death. In addition, it is not recommended to perform a circumcision on a baby without providing a Vitamin K shot.

Your baby's natural levels of Vitamin K will rise slowly over the next few months, but will not fully protect your baby from Vitamin K deficiency bleeding in the newborn period.

Many studies have been done to be sure that a Vitamin K shot is safe for your baby. There have also been studies to determine whether oral (by mouth) doses of Vitamin K can be used instead. Taking the Vitamin K by mouth has not been shown to be as effective as the shot.

Please talk to your Pediatrician if you do not want the Vitamin K shot for your baby or if you have decided to use oral Vitamin K.

If you choose not to have a Vitamin K shot for your baby, you will need to sign this form which talks about the risk of not giving Vitamin K.

The reasons to provide a Vitamin K shot to prevent Vitamin K deficient bleeding in my baby have been discussed with me by my baby's physician. I understand the risks and choose not to have a Vitamin K shot given to my baby.

_____ _____ _____ AM/PM
Parent Signature Date Time

_____ _____ _____ AM/PM
Parent Signature Date Time

_____ [ ][ ][ ][ ][ ] _____ _____ AM/PM
Physician Signature Date Time