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. Without needed levels of Vitamin K, your baby is at risk for Vitamin K deficient bleeding. Studies have shown the Vitamin K shot treatment to be safe and effective.

You have decided that your baby should not be given a Vitamin K shot. The risks to your baby have been discussed with you. You have reviewed and signed the Newborn Nursery Vitamin K Shot Refusal form.

Giving Vitamin K by mouth has also been studied and has been shown to be much less effective than a Vitamin K shot. Vitamin K taken by mouth is not recommended by your baby’s doctor, by Brigham and Women’s Hospital or by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Giving Vitamin K by mouth may not protect your baby from life-threatening bleeding that can be prevented with the Vitamin K shot.

- The risk of bleeding after one Vitamin K shot is 1 baby per 1,000,000 babies.
- The risk of bleeding after three Vitamin K doses by mouth is 1 baby per 100,000 babies.

Circumcision should not be done without receiving a Vitamin K shot. Without a Vitamin K shot there is also an increased risk of bleeding if your baby would need any surgical procedure now or in the future.

Since you have decided to only use Vitamin K by mouth for your baby, Brigham and Women’s Hospital will provide Vitamin K by mouth while your baby is in the hospital. One common dose schedule that has been used in other countries is 2 mg as soon as possible after birth, four days after birth and in the fourth week after birth. All 3 doses need to be taken for your baby to receive any protection from Vitamin K deficiency bleeding. The Vitamin K taken by mouth will not be as effective as the shot. Brigham and Women’s Hospital is not responsible for providing doses of Vitamin K after discharge from the hospital. You must make arrangements with your primary care pediatrician for additional doses of Vitamin K to be given to your baby after discharge.

The risks of giving Vitamin K by mouth instead of a Vitamin K shot have been explained to me by my baby’s doctor. I understand the risks and request that my baby receive Vitamin K by mouth.

Parent Signature ___________________________ Date ______________ AM/PM

Parent Signature ___________________________ Date ______________ AM/PM

Physician Signature ___________________________ Date ______________ AM/PM