



What information will become part of the NHIS?

NHIS will include information about pregnancy outcomes and child health for all Nunavummiut.

Prenatal Information such as:

- Nutrition status, vitamins, folic acid
- Chronic disease information
- Household information and supports
- Exposure to alcohol, drugs and medication

Labour and delivery information such as type of delivery and all types of pregnancy outcomes

Childhood information from two months, six months, one year, two to three years and four to five years Well-Child visits, including:

- Physical growth (Nunavut-specific growth curves will be developed!)
- Child development
- Diet, nutrition and dental information
- Household exposures
- Anemia screening results
- Serious injuries
- Hearing & vision assessment

Questions?

Please call, email or write to HSS if you have further questions about the Nutaqqavut Health Information System.



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Nutaqqavut 'Our Children' Health Information System (NHIS)



Healthy Mothers and Babies



What is the Nutaqqavut 'Our Children' Health Information System (NHIS)?

The NHIS is a way to improve the health of pregnant mothers, babies and children throughout Nunavut.

In March 2007, community members, nurses, Community Health Representatives (CHRs) and doctors met about how Nunavut could give better information to mothers to help them have the healthiest babies possible.

There was great support for starting a health information system about Nunavummiut and for Nunavummiut. Community members supported the project as a way to contribute to the health of future generations.

This led to the development of the NHIS as a part of the 2008 Public Health Strategy, *Developing Healthy Communities*.

This is the first time Nunavut has had a system to collect health information about pregnant women and young children.

Where will the information come from and how will it be used?

- Information will come from pregnancy, delivery and well baby check-ups that are part of every mother's and child's health chart. A copy of this information will be sent to the Department of Health and Social Services (HSS) in Iqaluit.
- Information will be used to help Nunavummiut understand the health of pregnant women and babies in Nunavut as a group.
- Although there are other similar information systems in Canada, the Nunavut NHIS will be the first that starts early in pregnancy and continues to five years of age.

How is privacy protected?

- All personal information is kept completely confidential.
- Individual information will be protected by law, under Nunavut legislation.
- Individual information will never be released.
- Community members, health care providers and others, who propose research based on the system, will need approval from the Advisory Committee for each project.
- Only a small number of professionals will be able to access the password-protected information system in order to maintain the system.

How will NHIS improve child health?

- It will teach Nunavummiut the things that women and their families do during pregnancy and early childhood that lead to healthy babies and children.
- It will provide the best information for parents to help them make decisions about their health and the health of their children.
- It will help HSS develop programs and materials that will help every woman have the healthiest pregnancies possible.

The NHIS will help HSS improve the current and future health of pregnant mothers and children in Nunavut by providing services that meet the needs of women and their families.

As Nunavut women and children contribute to this system, the health of babies and children will continue to improve.

