TO: Barbara W. Mather, City Solicitor

FROM: Joseph Paglia, Deputy Records Commissioner

SUBJECT: NEW "BIRTH CENTER" REGULATIONS AND AMENDMENT OF MATERNITY AND NEWBORN SERVICES REGULATIONS

The above regulations, promulgated by the Health Department, were received in the Department of Records on September 11, 1985, for filing and advertising.

Inasmuch as there were no requests for hearings, these regulations became effective midnight, October 11, 1985.

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cc: Stuart H. Shapiro, M.D., Health Commissioner
Harriet Williams, Special Asst. to Health Commissioner
The following proposed changes are designed to allow visits by siblings to newborns in hospital maternity services. Currently the Regulations for hospital maternity services preclude such visits, although siblings may visit newborns at birth centers. The proposed changes have been discussed with the appropriate medical societies. They are in agreement with these changes.

The changes refer to the enclosed booklet entitled, "Regulations for Maternity and Newborn Services."

On Page 11, Section 2. (1) Visitors, in the first paragraph, delete "when the infant is not present". In the second paragraph, add to the end of the first sentence "or may visit with the infant in accordance with policies and procedures of the institution". These changes will make it possible for siblings of the newborn infant to visit the baby.

On Page 15, Section 4. (a)(2) Prenatal Clinic Services, delete "tuberculin skin test (PPD Intermediate)". Section 4.(a)(3) Prenatal Record, delete "tuberculin skin test". These changes will make it no longer required to do routine tuberculin tests on all pregnant women receiving care in Philadelphia.

On Page 18, Section 4.(c)(7) Gowns and Handwashing, in the third sentence, delete "cover regular clothing with a clean gown and". This change will permit hospital personnel not working full-time in the labor and delivery area to come into the labor area without overgowning.

On Page 20, Section 4.(e)(2) Visitors, delete "and wear a clean hospital gown". This change will mean that hospital personnel can enter a rooming-in area (with the babies present) without overgowning.