



## Medical care &amp; clinical practice

# Prevention, detection, documentation, and treatment of retinopathy of prematurity (ROP)

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## Statement of the standard

Programmes for preventive measures such as control of oxygen supplementation and promotion of optimal nutrition are established as well as screening programmes for detection, documentation, and treatment of sight threatening retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) in all units caring for very preterm infants.

## Benefits

### Short-term benefits:

- Reduced occurrence of severe retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) needing treatment
- Improved identification of infants needing treatment for ROP
- Increased percentage of infants treated timely
- Reduced stress for parents

### Long-term benefits:

- Reduced occurrence of visual impairment and blindness caused by ROP



### For parents and family

- Parents are informed by healthcare professionals about retinopathy of prematurity (ROP), screening, treatment, and outcomes including the importance of provision of mother's own milk for the prevention of ROP.



### For neonatal unit

- Unit guidelines on prevention of ROP are available and regularly updated.
- Unit guidelines for control of oxygen supplementation and promotion of maternal milk feeding are available and regularly updated.



### For healthcare professionals

- Available guidelines on prevention and management of ROP are adhered to by all involved healthcare professionals.
- Training on oxygen saturation targets is attended by all responsible healthcare professionals.



### For eye unit

- Guidelines on screening, documentation and management of ROP are available and regularly updated.



### For hospital

- Training on prevention and management of ROP is ensured.
- Availability of expert personnel for fail-safe system of ophthalmological screening and treatment is ensured.



### For health service

- National guidelines on prevention and management of ROP are available and regularly updated.
- Rate of blindness and impaired vision due to ROP is monitored nationally.



european standards of  
care for newborn health

Here you can access the full standard:  
<https://newborn-health-standards.org/standards/standards-english/medical-care-clinical-practice/prevention-detection-documentation-and-treatment-of-retinopathy-of-prematurity-rop/>



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