

**Vermont Oxford Network**  
**Revisions for Manual of Operations, Part 1, Version 1.0**  
**November 1, 2011**

**Modification of Definition of Live Birth**

Database Eligibility: The definition of live born was updated to use the standard terminology recommendation of The Committee on Fetus and Newborn of the American Academy of Pediatrics. The definition is on the following pages of Part 1 of the Manual of Operations: inside front cover, 12, & 13.

The definition now reads:

A live born infant is one who breathes or has any evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscle, regardless of whether the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached. Heartbeats are to be distinguished from transient cardiac contractions; respirations are to be distinguished from fleeting respiratory efforts or gasps.<sup>1</sup>

1. From the American Academy of Pediatrics: Clinical Reports: Standard Terminology for Fetal, Infant, and Perinatal Deaths. The Committee on Fetus and Newborn. *Pediatrics* 2011; 128:1 177-181