

BULLETIN #2 - May 30, 2006

1. Continue to use your stock of Newborn Screening cards.

The format of the Newborn Screening cards issued by the Public Health Laboratory has changed from the 8"x6" cards to a longer, 11"x4" card. Both cards are acceptable. **Please use all of the stock that you have in supply.**

2. Babies who are <24 hours of age at time of sample collection.

For babies who are discharged early and the initial sample for newborn screening is done before they are 24 hours of age, these samples will be analysed and a report will be issued. **However, since not all diseases are reliably detected using blood samples taken before 24 hours of age, a repeat sample will always be requested.** The Health Care Provider who submitted the initial sample has the responsibility of making arrangements for a follow-up sample.

3. Help us to direct your reports to the right location.

We generate reports based on the information that you provide on the requisition. Please write legibly, fill in all fields, and remember to highlight your Submitter Unique Number to help you track your reports. We are also planning to include the date and time of collection on the report to assist you. **Be sure to include any specific location or person within your institution (eg. Laboratory) in the Submitting Health Care Provider field.** While reports are currently being mailed individually, in the future we are planning to send the reports as larger batches.

Again, thank you for your cooperation and assistance in making the Ontario Newborn Screening Program the most effective and efficient that it can be.

Topics for future bulletins:

- o screen positive results
- o review of sample requirements
- o consent

Previous bulletins (listed under 'Newsletter') and other information can be found at:
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/child/screening/screen_sum.html

These bulletins are being circulated to keep you abreast of changes to the Ontario Newborn Screening program. Please share this information with any relevant personnel in your hospital / clinic. If there is someone who would like to be added to this list, contact:
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