

BULLETIN #8 – September 14, 2006

1. Information for Parents.

Some of the cards that we have received recently in our laboratory still have the "Dear Parent" letter attached (the top sheet of the NBS requisition). Please ensure that the parents receive this letter when the newborn screening sample is collected as it helps to explain what the test is about and why it is important. This letter also explains that results are sent to the hospital, doctor, midwife, or individual who sent the sample. Therefore, any calls we receive from parents asking for their baby's results will be directed to the health care provider that ordered the newborn screen. Our telephone number is provided to parents for general questions regarding NBS, *not* for information regarding test results.

2. Both copies of the requisition are required.

Please submit BOTH copies of the newborn screening requisition. In addition, please ensure that both copies are complete and legible.

3. Ordering envelopes.

Many of you are ordering the *same* number of cards and envelopes. Please remember that only one envelope containing that day's samples should be mailed daily. If you are sending samples for 10 babies per day, for example, you should only need 25 envelopes (one pack) for every 250 NBS cards (10 packs). A MAXIMUM order of 8 packs of envelopes (200 envelopes) can be placed with VWR at any one time. This is equivalent to about a 6-month supply. Please note that at this time, envelopes are backordered and should become available in October.

4. Contact information for ordering cards and envelopes.

The email address for Brandy Brookings is bbrookings@cheo.on.ca and the email address for Eliza Cadieux is ecadieux@cheo.on.ca. The telephone numbers published previously are correct. We apologize for any inconvenience.

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

Additional information about the Ontario Newborn Screening Program 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:
Tillie Chiu, Genetic Counsellor
(613) 738-3222, x3434; NewbornScreening@cheo.on.ca