

BULLETIN #42– April 16, 2010

Newborn Screening Cards

The manufacturer of the newborn screening cards used by the Ontario Newborn Screening Program has recently advised us that a subset of cards have a loose attachment between the blood dot paper and the demographic portion of the card.

The Ontario Newborn Screening Program has assessed the potential risk to patient safety in this situation as low. However, we would ask that you please do the following:

1. Please closely inspect the cards you are using to obtain newborn screening samples.
2. If a loose card is noted, we recommend reinforcing the attachment, preferably with tape. Please do NOT use tape on any other portion of the card.
3. If the blood dot paper has completely separated from the demographics section please discard the card and obtain a new card.

If you notice this issue at your institution, we ask that you please note the A# on the card and advise the Ontario Newborn Screening Program by phone, 613 738 3222 X3435 or email: newbornscreening@cheo.on.ca.

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:
www.newbornscreening.on.ca

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:
Shelley Kennedy or Sari Zelenietz, Genetic Counsellors
(613) 738-3222, option #1; NewbornScreening@cheo.on.ca