

BULLETIN #6 – August 14, 2006

1. Pamphlets for parents

Some of you have enquired about the pamphlet “Newborn Screening: A healthy start leads to a healthier life” referred to on the parent letter (the front page of the new Newborn Screening dried blood spot card). These pamphlets were sent to all hospitals earlier in the year by the Ministry of Health (MOH). If you did not receive these pamphlets, they can be ordered through the MOH. The order form can be found at http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/child/screening/pdf/nbs_orderform.pdf. The pamphlets can also be downloaded (in 12 languages) from the MOH site at http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/program/child/screening/fact_sheets.html.

2. Submitting Health Care Provider field

A rubber stamp or a sticker with your facility's name and address CAN be used in the Submitting Health Care Provider field. Please ensure that both copies are stamped or stickered and are legible. An addressograph is also acceptable as long as both copies can be read easily. **At present the reports are being sent back to the Submitting Health Care Provider ONLY.**

3. Submitter Unique Number

There still appears to be some confusion about the Submitter Unique Number field that appears on the new NBS card. This field is provided to help your facility to match the NBS report to, for example, a lab accession number or a baby's chart number. Please write the number that is most helpful to you in this field. This is an optional field for your use and may be left blank if you choose. The empty space in this field is for you to place any stickers or barcodes that your facility may want to use for your own purposes. Please do not place any such stickers elsewhere on the form.

4. Ordering Additional NBS Cards and Envelopes

All submitters have been provided with an initial shipment of cards and envelopes that should be sufficient for a 2-3 month supply. Starting in late August or early September, an NBS staff member will contact each submitter to set up an account. This will enable each submitter to order additional cards and envelopes from our distributor, VWR.

5. New Genetic Counsellor

Some of you may have already had the opportunity to speak with Sari Zelenietz, a genetic counsellor who joined the program on July 10, 2006. Sari will be sharing duties within the NBS program with Tillie Chiu and any inquiries about the program can be directed to either Tillie or Sari. Sari's email address is sari@cheo.on.ca.

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

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:
Tillie Chiu, Genetic Counsellor
(613) 738-3222, x3434; NewbornScreening@cheo.on.ca