

BULLETIN #12 – February 14, 2007

***Galactosemia and Biotinidase Deficiency Screening to begin
February 19, 2007!***

The Ontario Newborn Screening Laboratory is set to begin screening for galactosemia and biotinidase deficiency on February 19, 2007.

In order to provide an accurate screening result for galactosemia, the **infant's transfusion status MUST be indicated on the newborn screening requisition**. If the baby has been transfused, the date of the most recent transfusion must be provided. Since donor red blood cells will persist in the circulation for a number of months and will interfere with the screening test, a repeat sample will be requested for every baby who has had a transfusion. This repeat sample should be drawn 4-6 months after the last transfusion.

For more information about these disorders, see:

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/child/screening/pdf/fs_biot.pdf
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/program/child/screening/pdf/fs_galact.pdf .

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