Child Health Notes



Promoting early identification and partnerships between families, primary health care providers & the community.

Distributed by Public Health-Seattle & King County—Children with Special Health Care Needs Program. This newsletter provides physicians, nurse practitioners, primary health care providers, public health centers and community partners with current information regarding identification and management of special health issues for children. Contributing agencies and programs include: Washington State Department of Health and UW — Center on Human Development & Disability



Saving lives with a simple blood spot



Who Is Screened?

Washington State law requires that every newborn be tested prior to discharge from the hospital or within five days of age.

In addition to the required first specimen, it is strongly recommended that every baby born in Washington have a second screening specimen collected between 7 and 14 days of age.

A third screen is recommended for sick and premature infants.

Expanded Newborn Screening in Washington State Updates for Your Practice

Newborn screening detects health problems in newborn babies that would not otherwise be known without screening. If left untreated, these conditions can lead to brain damage, life-long disability, and in some cases, even death. New laboratory techniques and enhanced technology make it possible to screen for more congenital disorders in newborns. Currently, 27 disorders are on the Washington State panel of newborn screening tests. Each year, approximately 175 infants in Washington State are diagnosed with one of these disorders (approximately 1 in 500 children). Beginning January 2014, another group of disorders, severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID - also known as Bubble Boy disease) will be added to the mandatory panel.

Successful newborn screening requires collaboration between the Department of Health State Newborn Screening Program, health care facilities (hospitals, local health departments, clinics), health care providers (pediatricians, family practice physicians, nurse practitioners, midwives), and families of newborns. Early detection prevents chronic disability and helps affected children and their families' access support and services to assure the best health possible.

Which Disorders Are Screened In Washington State?

Sickle cell disease (3 forms) & other

hemoglobinopathies

Disorder:	Possible Outcomes if Treatment Delayed		
Metabolic Disorders			
Amino acid disorders Phenylketonuria (PKU) & 5 others	intellectual disabilities, coma, seizures, & death		
Biotinidase deficiency	metabolic crisis, coma & death		
Fatty acid oxidation disorders			
Medium chain acyl-CoA dehydrogenase (MCAD) deficiency & 4 others Galactosemia	serious damage affecting the brain, liver, heart, eyes, muscle, & death		
Organic acid disorders	liver failure, sepsis & death		
Glutaric acidemia type 1 (GA-1) & 7 others	severe nerve & physical damage & death		
Disorders of Endocrine System:			
Congenital hypothyroidism (CH)	severe neurological & developmental damage		
Congenital adrenal hyperplasia (CAH)	life-threatening salt loss leading to death		
ystic fibrosis (CF) chronic lung & digestive system disease			
Other Disorders:			

splenic enlargement, severe anemia,

susceptibility to bacterial infections

Things to Consider For Your Practice:

- Be familiar with the disorders screened in Washington State
- Know where to find information about the disorders (See Information and Resources below)
- Assure that all infants in your practice have a second screening test and document the screening status of every child
- Talk with families about newborn screening and assure referral to speciality care clinics as necessary
- Respond quickly to information and specimen requests from the Newborn Screening Program

What Happens If Screening Results Are Positive?

All specimens that are determined to be presumptive positive through the Newborn Screening Program are followed up immediately through direct telephone contact with the child's primary health care provider. This is to ensure that diagnostic testing and treatment, if indicated, is initiated as quickly as possible. Following a definitive diagnosis, a long-term, disease-specific medical management program is implemented.

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES:			
Referral Centers	Diagnostic and follow-up services for disorders identified by the WA State Newborn Screening Program:		
Comorc	Metabolic Disorders:		
	University of WA - PKU/Biochemical Genetics Clinic – CHDD 1-877-685-3015 or 206-598-1800		
	Seattle Children's – Biochemical Genetics Clinic		
	Endocrine Disorders: Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia and Congenital Hypothyroidism		
	Endocrine Clinic – Seattle Children's(206) 987-264	40	
	Endocrine Clinic - Mary Bridge Children's Hospital, Tacoma(253) 792-663		
	Congenital Hypothyroidism Clinic – Univ.of WA – CHDD(206) 598-180		
	Madigan Army Medical Center (military)(253) 968-01	09	
	Cystic Fibrosis: CF Clinics at-		
	Seattle Children's Hospital, Seattle(206) 987-202		
	Mary Bridge Children's Hospital, Tacoma(253) 403-414		
	Providence Physician's Group at Sacred Heart, Spokane(509) 474-696		
	Oregon Health Sciences Center, Portland, OR(503) 494-802		
	Madigan Army Medical Center (military)(253) 968-19	80	
	Hemoglobin Disorders (i.e. Sickle Cell Disease):		
	Odessa Brown Children's Clinic, Seattle		
	Mary Bridge Children's Hospital & Health Center, Tacoma		
Ctoto	Sacred Heart Children's Hospital, Spokane(509) 474-27		
State:	Washington State Newborn Screening Program	(206) 418-5410; 1-866-660-9050	
	Washington State Department of Health Newborn Screening website. Provides	www.doh.wa.gov/nbs E-mail: nbs.prog@doh.wa.gov	
	separate pages for health professionals and parents.	E-mail. hbs.prog@don.wa.gov	
National:	NewSTEPs (Newborn Screening Technical assistance and Evaluation Program)		
	Provides information about NBS laboratory practice, quality improvement, education	https://newsteps.org	
	and training, program evaluation and policy.		
	and name, program orangement and poney.		
	Save Babies Through Screening Foundation		
	Provides general information about newborn screening disorders, family stories,	http://www.savebabies.org	
	resources, and frequently asked questions.		





