

DATE:	8 July 2024
TO:	All Zones: APL and AHS Healthcare Professionals and Providers Performing Newborn Screen Collections
FROM:	Newborn Screening Laboratory, Genetics and Genomics
RE:	Newborn Screening Card Changes

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Alberta newborn screening (NBS) blood spot cards are changing to support the integration of the Alberta Newborn Screening Laboratory into Connect Care. The current card type will be replaced.

Background

- The Alberta Newborn Screening Laboratory is adopting Connect Care as part of its laboratory information system. This required changes to the NBS blood spot card demographic information section.

Important Dates

- July 8, 2024 – New NBS blood spot cards will be available to order.
- July 25, 2024 – New NBS blood spot cards are to be put in use for newborn screen collection.

Action Required

- On or after July 8, 2024, stock new NBS blood spot cards.
- As of July 25, 2024, ensure the use of the new NBS blood spot cards with an expiry date of October 31, 2028. **Destroy** old stock of NBS blood spot cards with expiry date of October 31, 2024.

Effective **July 25, 2024**

- Further communications containing additional details on the use of the new NBS blood spot cards will be sent in advance.

Questions/Concerns

- Genetic Counsellors, Newborn Screening, Genetics and Genomics North (UAH), 780-407-7907

Approved by

- Dr. Dennis Bulman, Medical/Scientific Director, Provincial Genetics and Genomics Program, APL
- Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, Chief Medical Laboratory Officer (Interim), APL
- Dr. Ross Ridsdale, Head, Newborn Screening Lab, Genetics and Genomics North, APL

Effective September 1, 2023, APL has become the sole provider of all public lab services in Alberta. As a result, community lab services formally provided by DynaLIFE Medical Labs will become the responsibility of Alberta Precision Labs (APL). This change impacts all zones.