

Date: September 27, 2011

To: South Zone – West: Data Center, Nursing Units 3A, LDR, Anna Marshall Maternal Child Coordinator

From: AHS Laboratory Services – South Zone (West)
Dr. B. Popma, Zone Clinical Department Head (Co-Lead), Laboratory Medicine, South Zone

Re: LB-25-11 Newborn Metabolic Screen (NMS) Collections

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

Public Health nurses will no longer routinely collect the Newborn Metabolic Screen (NMS) if the baby is discharged before collection.

Why this is important:

Laboratory staff must now ensure that all NMS are ordered and collected prior to baby being discharged from hospital.

Action Required:

- All NMS cards must be filled out completely and accurately before collection.
- The Provincial Notice of Live Birth form must have the mother's surname written at the top of the form and the babies ULI/PHN number and Hospital chart number written at the top of the newborn section before NMS collection will be done.

Inpatients

- Orders for NMS will be entered by LDR
- NMS collections are to be ordered as Timed, never Routine or Stat.
- Enter the date for collection as T+1 for Date of Collection; Enter the time for collection as Birth time plus 5 minutes.
- Data Center staff may call the floor prior to collection and have staff warm babies heel and assist with collection.
- Due to workload and staffing in Data Centre, collections will be done as close to collection time as possible, however STAT and URGENT collections in facility take priority over NMS collections.
- Data Center will edit date of collection if required.
- Floor will no longer need to cancel and reorder NMS.

Discharged patients

- Babies discharged prior to 24 hours of age or before collection is done may go to the nearest hospital (Monday - Friday) or Community Lab (Monday – Saturday) for NMS collections.
- Nursing staff will provide patient with an outpatient requisition for NMS collection and a completed NMS card in a labeled envelope

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

Barbara Collin, Data Center Supervisor Laboratory at 403-388-6109

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by
Dr. B. Popma, Zone Clinical Department Head (Co-Lead), Laboratory Medicine, South Zone