



NEWBORN SCREENING NEWSLETTER

January 2016

Do Not Use Dad's Information on Newborn Screening Cards:

The mother's name and her date of birth are used as matching criteria to identify all infants. When filling out the second newborn screening card information must match what is on the first card. This means that even if the father is the guarantor, the mother's name and date of birth must be written on the card., not Dads. When information on the second card does not match the information from the first your clinic will receive a call from our friendly staff to clarify. This can also delay the screening process.

There are some exceptions:

- Adoption: Fill out the card with adoptive mother's information, including adoptive mother's name, date of birth, address, and telephone number. The adoption bubble must also be marked.
- Child's Last name: This often changes after discharge from the hospital, please use the infant's legal last name on the second card.
- Other circumstances do come up, please call the Newborn Screening Program and we will direct you on how to fill out the newborn screening card.

Sending Second Cards via Courier:

Did you know that you may be able to send second newborn screening specimens to the lab via courier service?

Check with your clinic courier service or hospital lab and ask if they will deliver the samples to the State Laboratory. Cards brought to the lab by courier are delivered 6 days a week. Courier service is a faster more efficient way for specimens to be sent and for you to receive results. If your clinic does not have access to a courier please continue to send specimens through the mail within 24 hours of collection.

****EXPIRED CARDS****

Newborn screening cards are a medical device requiring an expiration date by the FDA. A batch of miscellaneous cards expired in November 2015. A number of specimens have been untestable because they were received on expired cards and have had to be recollected.

Please take a moment to look through all miscellaneous cards in your facility and check expiration dates.

If you need help ordering new cards for your facility please call the Newborn Screening Program for assistance. Thank you.

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