



NEWBORN SCREENING NEWSLETTER



CHILD AND ADOLESCENT HEALTH VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

Q & A *by* Leslie Himstedt

With all of the attention on Newborn Screening in the media over the last few months, our program has been fielding a lot of phone calls and emails. These are the most frequently asked questions.

Q. The local health unit courier does not pick up samples on Friday. What do we do?

A. Send samples by overnight service for delivery to the lab on the next business day.

Q. How can we get samples to the lab within 48 hours if the lab is closed weekends and holidays?

A. We do not expect to receive 100% of the samples within 48 hours.

Q. We use the LHU courier service but our samples are not delivered to the Public Health Lab until after 4:30 PM. How does affect our receipt time?

A. Courier logs were reviewed and the majority of the couriers deliver samples to the lab around 5:00 p.m. Samples received after the lab does its final pick-up of the day are marked received on that date at 5:00 PM.

Q. The local health unit courier service is not an option for us. What do we do?

A. Send samples by overnight service for delivery on the next business day.



Leslie



NBS NURSING NOTES:



Our wonderful NBS Nurse Educator, *Mary Jean Gresham*, retired after many years as a pediatric and public health nurse. We are so sad to see her go, but happy for her now that she is gardening and spending time with her family!

Brenda Webb, RN, will be starting as our new Nurse Educator on April 28! She brings a wealth of pediatric and public health experience. We are sure you will love getting to know her.

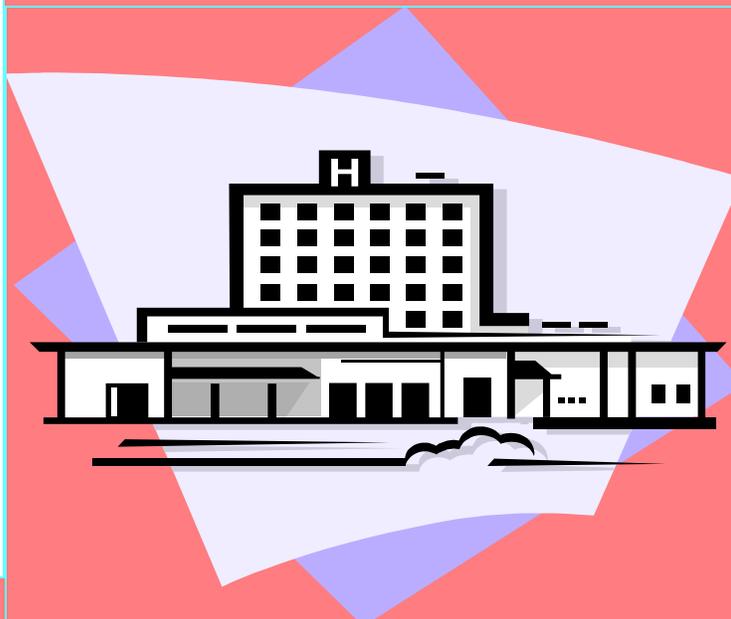
You may reach Brenda at the same number: (501) 280-4774.

Pat Purifoy, RN, will be our new NBS Nursing Supervisor! Pat also has a wealth of public health experience, is a recognized nursing leader in the state, and will be a great asset to the program. She is replacing Patti Scott, who is the new ADH School Health Director. Dr. Scott will still be involved with NBS and other Child and Adolescent Health Section quality improvement and education projects.

Pat may be reached at the same number: (501) 280-4145.

Congratulations to the Most Improved Hospital:

Over the last 6 months, Baptist Medical Center in Stuttgart improved their sample delivery time by 20 percentage points!



LAB NOTES *by* LESLIE HIMSTEDT

There are collection cards with two different expiration dates in use. Most everyone has been provided with cards that have an expiration date of 12/2015. Some of you may have cards in your facility that have an expiration date of September 2014. If you do have these cards please use them first.



For those of you that are a CAP (College of American Pathologist) - accredited facility, there are new regulations in the CAP Laboratory General Checklist. Gen.40545 makes note of a tracking system for Newborn Screening. It is understood that each facility will put its own policies in place to accommodate this new regulation. Please note that if the facility chooses to use a packing list, requiring the NBS lab to return them back to the facility, they will be returned via US Mail. You must include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you want your packing list returned. With the anticipated volume of packing lists expected we will not be able to fax these back to you.

We have had an unusually large number of samples rejected recently due to the blood spots not soaking through to the other side. All 5 spots must be completely filled to the dotted lines on both sides of the filter paper.

It is critical that the information on the collection card is complete and correct. The TSH test uses three different age groups with varying cutoffs, based on the age of baby at time of collection, for proper interpretation of results. If dates and times are incorrect or not provided there is the chance the results may not be interpreted correctly.

Leslie

HOLIDAY REMINDER~



ALL STATE OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED THE FOLLOWING UPCOMING HOLIDAYS

MEMORIAL DAY, MAY 26th and JULY 4th .

Please send your samples through same day courier or overnight mail May 22 - 26; and July 3 - 6.