

**Summer  
2009**



# Newborn Screening 411

**RCHSD  
Newborn Screening  
Area Service Center**

## Important Reminders

- Summer is here and it's getting hot! Please remember to keep your specimens in a cool, dry place (not in the refrigerator) until they are transported to the screening laboratory. Exposure to heat may affect the accuracy of the test results. Additionally, specimens collected Monday through Friday must leave the facility within 12 hours of being collected. Specimens collected on a weekend or holiday must be sent out on the next business day.
- Adoption, surrogate, and safe-surrender cases: When completing the TRF, please provide the newborn's expected post-discharge address and phone number. It is important that we have the most accurate information possible so we can reach the parent/guardian quickly in the event of a positive or inadequate newborn screening result. If the future contact information is not known at the time of collection (e.g. for CPS holds), please provide, at a minimum, the name and phone number of the social worker or case worker who is managing the case.

## You are Invited!

In September 2008, your Newborn Screening Area Service Center at Rady Children's Hospital San Diego held an Open House in honor of Newborn Screening Awareness Month. This year, we will be taking our Open House on the road! We hope you will be able to attend one of the following events:

In Riverside County:

Thursday, September 3, 2009  
11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Riverside County Regional Medical Center  
Room A  
26520 Cactus Ave., Moreno Valley, CA 92555

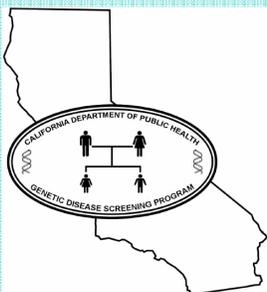
In Orange County:

Tuesday, September 30, 2009  
11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Children's Hospital Orange County  
West – Harold Wade Center – Second Floor  
455 South Main St., Orange, CA 92868

Dr. Abdenur will present "A Brief Overview of NBS"

*\*Refreshments will be served at both events.*



## RCHSD

### Newborn Screening Area Service Center

#### LOCATED AT:

7920 Frost Street, Suite 302  
San Diego, CA 92123

#### MAILING ADDRESS:

3020 Children's Way  
Mail Code 5116  
San Diego, CA 92123

#### PHONE:

(858) 966-8708

#### FAX:

(858) 966-8709

For more information visit:  
[www.dhs.ca.gov/NBS/](http://www.dhs.ca.gov/NBS/)



*A baby is born with  
a need to be loved -  
and never outgrows  
it.*

- Frank A. Clark

## New Numbers for Ordering Supplies

To order California Newborn Screening Supplies:

Please call, fax, or email your request to any of the following:

- 877-984-8450 (phone)
- 877-984-8650 (fax)
- NBSOrders@SBF-inc.com (e-mail)

Available materials include:

- Specimen collection forms (TRFs)
- NBS-OHs, NBS-NOs, NBS-MRs, NBS-TRs
- Important Information for Parents about the Newborn Screening Test (IIP) in 12 languages
- Any other NBS educational materials

## New: Question of the Quarter

We are pleased to introduce a new resource for getting answers to your non-urgent questions about Newborn Screening: the "Question of the Quarter." Please submit any questions or concerns to us via e-mail at [nbs@rchsd.org](mailto:nbs@rchsd.org). The best and/or most commonly asked question, and answer, will be published in the following newsletter. No identifying information about the asker will be published. For more urgent matters, please continue to call us directly.

This quarter's question follows:

*The series 24 TRFs have "2009-06" printed in the lower right-hand corner. Does that mean they have expired?*

**Answer:** No, they have not expired. The series 24 TRFs (form numbers beginning with "24") will expire in June of 2010. At the time the collection cards were printed, the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI), formerly called the National Committee for Clinical Laboratory Standards (NCCLS), had a recommended shelf life of two years for printed collection devices. A new standard was published on August 1, 2007 which extended the shelf-life to three years. The series 24 forms were printed just before the new standard was released.

Please continue to use the series 24 forms. The NAPS laboratories will continue to accept specimens collected on these forms. You may have already received series 25 forms; however, given that the series 24 TRFs will expire first, we recommend that you use all of your series 24 forms before using the series 25 forms.

If you have any questions regarding this, please contact us at 858-966-8708 or 1-800-793-1313.