

TN NEWBORN SCREENING NEWSLETTER

<http://health.state.tn.us/NBS/index.htm>

February 2010



Tennessee Department of Health
Women's Health & Genetics
630 Hart Lane
Nashville, TN 37247



Newborn Metabolic Screening:

Phone # 615-262-6304

Fax # 615-262-6458

Newborn Hearing Screening:

Phone # 615-262-6160

Fax # 615-262-6159

Upcoming State Holiday:

February 15: **PRESIDENT'S DAY**

Checklist Before Mailing

Assign a staff member at your facility to look at the information on the newborn screening form just before they are mailed and confirm:

- ◆ Date & Time of birth are recorded, accurate and legible
- ◆ Date & Time of collection are recorded, accurate and legible
- ◆ Mother's contact information is accurate and legible
- ◆ Transfusion status is accurate (if marked "YES" there must be a date of transfusion)
- ◆ Gender is accurate
- ◆ Add hearing screening results (if available record on form and **DO NOT** tear out pink hearing form)
- ◆ Mail within 24 hours of collection.

Newborn Screening Refusal Protocol Update

Newborn screening is mandated for all infants born in Tennessee. The only exemption recognized by law is based upon refusal due to religious beliefs. This exemption is noted in T.C.A. 68-5-404. When parents refuse either hearing or metabolic newborn screening, a refusal form should be completed and signed by parents. This form can be downloaded from the Department of Health website at <http://health.state.tn.us/index.htm>. The form no longer requires notarization, but it does require the signature of a witness. Once completed, **a copy of the signed form should be faxed** to the Newborn Screening Follow Up program at 615-262-6458 or the Hearing Screening Follow Up at 615-262-6159 and the original should be retained in the infant's medical record.

Please Help Cut Down on Extra Work When Sending Pink Hearing Forms

The Newborn Screening Program is asking for some help to avoid extra, duplicate data entry work. Whenever possible, record the hearing screening results on the metabolic form before it is mailed and **DO NOT REMOVE** the pink hearing slip to mail separately. If hearing results are not available at time of collection or mailing of the metabolic sample, then remove the pink slip to be sent at time of the hearing screening. When pink hearing forms are sent and the hearing screening results are on the metabolic form, it has to be looked up in the system which takes about as much time as entering the data. Your cooperation in this matter can eliminate a lot of duplicate work and free the nursing staff to perform other more pressing duties.



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Newborn Screening Form Update By Chris McKeever

Soon, the Newborn Screening Laboratory will begin filling requests for newborn screening forms with our latest edition, REV. 12/09. There are a few changes with this form that should be noted:

1. The form continues to be WHATMAN 903 but is lavender in color. It has an expiration date of December 2012. The expiration date is found at the bottom right corner of the form and is displayed as 2012-12. The new lot number is W091-6856209.
2. Since antibiotics can interfere with some Acylcarnitine results we have added a place on the collection form to indicate if the infant has had antibiotic therapy. Please indicate on the form by checking either YES or NO whether the infant is on antibiotics at the time of collection or has had antibiotics within 24 hours of collection.
3. To aid in follow-up of any hearing results with our Latino population, there is a place under Mother's Information to indicate if Spanish language is spoken. Please collect this information if at all possible.

Under Hearing, there are now additional data items to indicate why a test was not performed - "Unable to Test", "Transferred", "Still in Hospital" and "Expired". There are now "6" risk factor categories. ECMO and Chemo are now #6. See the back of the "Pink" hearing copy for definitions of risk factors.

Please use all of your current supply of forms before contacting your Local Health Department or Laboratory Services for the new supply of forms. Current forms in circulation are yellow, orange or blue in color with expiration dates of 9/2010, 10/2011 and 5/2012 respectively and should be exhausted prior to using the new forms. If you have any questions, please contact Christine McKeever (615-262-6352 or Chris.McKeever@tn.gov) Thomas Childs (615-262-6446 or [Tho-mas.Childs@tn.gov](mailto:Thomas.Childs@tn.gov)) or Mitzi Lamberth (615-262-6304 or Mitzi.Lamberth@tn.gov).

Also starting with the blue forms, a space is now provided to document NICU status in the "Status Of Infant At Time Of Collection" box. Mark "Yes" if the infant is in the NICU and mark "No" if the infant is in the well baby nursery. In addition there is now space to collect a second phone number under mother's information. The second phone number should be a phone that is always in service and answered. Occasionally there are critical or panic results that need immediate follow up. Recently we receive more and more numbers that are not in service when a call to mom is made. Time can make a difference in the outcome. Encourage mothers to give accurate contact information.

Problems With Missing, Inaccurate and Illegible Information on the Newborn Screening Forms

The Newborn Screening Program is receiving about 10 or more corrections a day. Corrections are sent when the original form was not filled out completely, filled out inaccurately, or illegibly before it was submitted. The program continues to update the demographic information in order to prevent recollections. Currently the number of these correction requests is overwhelming the system. **All of these corrections CAN BE PREVENTED.** When a newborn screening filter card is collected, please assign someone in your organization the task of checking the information on the form with the information of the infant and mother as a last step before mailing. It is also an ideal time to add the hearing screening results if they were not available at collection time.

Did You Know Missing Or Inaccurate Information On Newborn Screening Forms Can:

- Cost your hospital the same as any unsatisfactory newborn screening result when a repeat sample is collected.
- Delay needed follow up and/or diagnosis and treatment.
- Be prevented by double checking the information on the form just before it is mailed

Important Newborn Screening Phone Numbers at a Glance

- NBS Metabolic Follow Up
Ph 615-262-6304
Fax 615-262-6458
- Voice Response System
Local 615-262-3041
Toll Free 866-355-6132
- Filter Papers
Ph 615-262-6391
Fax 615-262-6455
- Pamphlets
Ph 615-262-6304
Fax 615-262-6458
- Billing
Ph 615-262-6300
Fax 615-262-6396
- ICD9 Codes
Ph 615-262-6300



**Tennessee Department of Health
Newborn Hearing Screening
health.state.tn.us/NBS/hearing.htm**



Meet the Newborn Hearing Follow-Up Nurses.

- **Jacque Cundall** - Newborn Screening Program Coordinator. She has promoted Newborn Hearing Screening since 1996. She is past president of the Directors of Speech and Hearing Programs in State Health and Welfare Agencies, Inc.

- **Rebecca Walls** - Newborn Hearing Follow-up Consultant. Rebecca joined the program in July 2009. She is certified in Care Coordination and has worked with Children's Special Services (CSS). You can contact Rebecca by e mail: Rebecca.C.Walls@tn.gov

Joyce Size and Fran Myatt - Nurse Consultants. Assist the program by tracking follow-up for infants and toddlers that have pending hearing results after at least one visit to an audiologist. They joined they program in March 2009. In addition, they conduct site visits to birthing hospitals for the State Birth Defects Registry Program.



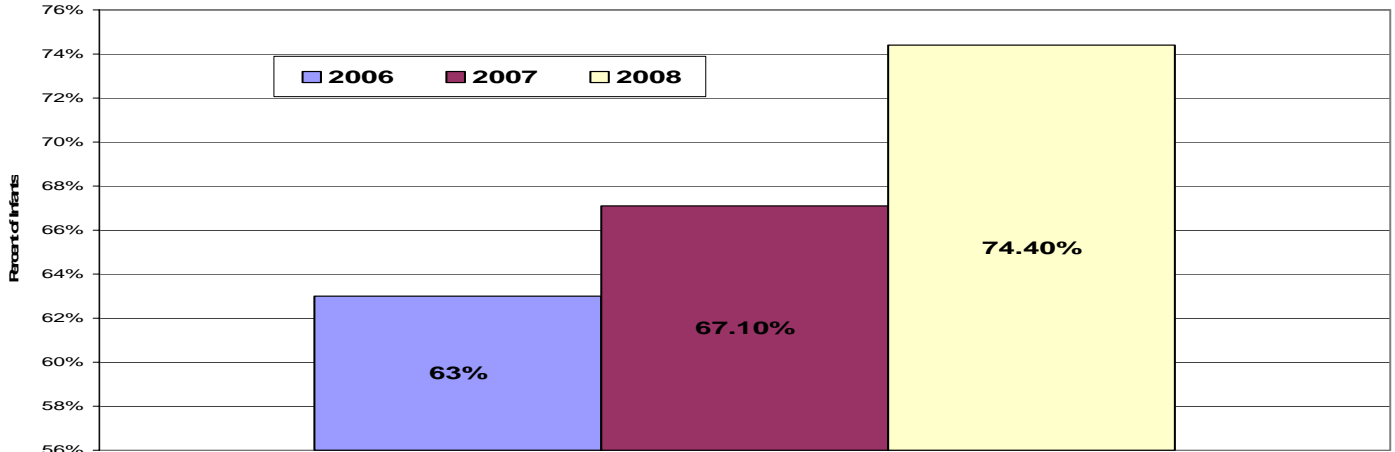
Rebecca Walls



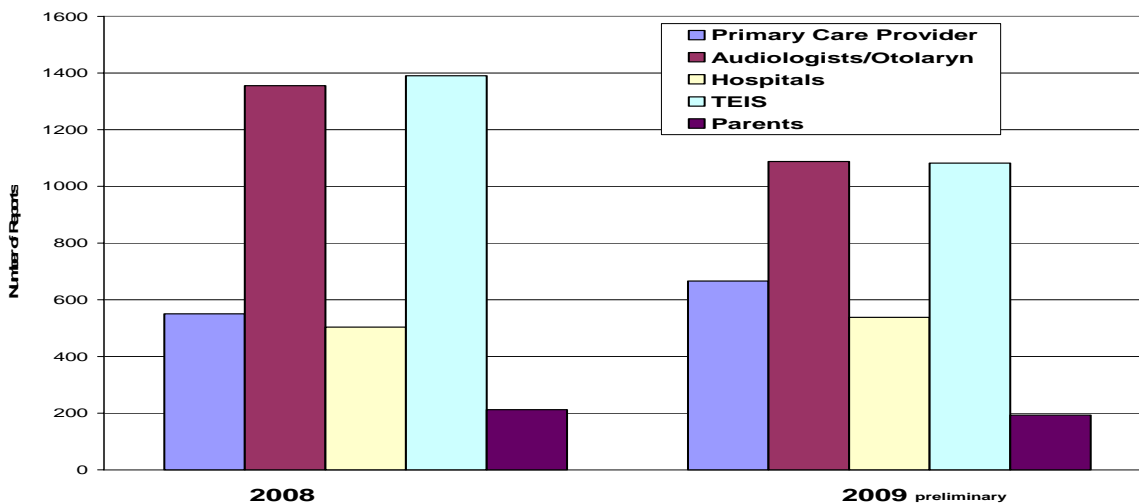
Joyce Sizemore and Fran Myatt

Thanks to all of you for the great follow-up and reporting on infants that did not pass the initial hearing screening. Look how far we have come. The National Average was about 50% in 2007. Our 2009 data is looking even better.

Tennessee Department of Health Newborn Hearing Screening
Percent of Infants Completing Follow-up after Not Passing the Initial hearing Screening
January 2009



Tennessee Department of Health Newborn Hearing Program
Follow-up Reported by Provider



Where Do I Send An Infant for Hearing Follow-up?

The Newborn Hearing Program has a "Pediatric Audiology Directory" that is located on the state website. The directory includes:

- Qualified providers for hearing screening and diagnosis
- Hearing Aid Providers
- Cochlear Implant Providers
- Early Intervention Providers (such as Tennessee Early Intervention System -TEIS)

Family Support (such as Family Voices)

Handout: Hearing Provider Sheet - An individual page of hearing providers (East, Middle, and West Tennessee Regions), as listed in the Directory, is available to provide families in your practice. Download from on the web site.