Dear Health Care Provider,

We recently became aware many birth hospitals are releasing newborns and their mothers earlier than the 24th hour of life.  Likewise we have been made aware many physician practices are operating with limited hours and hospitals are not allowing families with infants back into the clinic or nursery for repeat testing.

To address these changes, we have altered some of our recommendations on the newborn screening reports, while ensuring infants get the health benefits associated with early screening.  Please use the secure remote viewer on the newborn screening application on the Health Commerce System and read all newborn screening reports for guidance.  We anticipate families contacting you directly for repeat newborn screening collections.  We are recommending hospitals releasing babies early send families home with a blank specimen collection form.  We would like you to be prepared to collect specimens in your office.  There are educational information and a training video at:

<https://www.wadsworth.org/programs/newborn/screening/providers/specimen-collection>

If you require specimen collection forms, please visit:

<https://www.wadsworth.org/programs/newborn/screening/providers/request-materials>

and request these materials online.

Thank you for all you do and your diligence in making sure New York’s infants get off to the best start possible during this difficult time.

Questions may be directed to our main phone line at 518-473-7552.

Kindest regards and stay well,

Michele

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