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GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor

Date: March 18, 2020

To: All California Birthing Facilities

From: Dr. Richard Olney
Division Chief, Genetic Disease Screening Program
California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

RE: Courier Service for Newborn Screening Program Specimens

Newborn screening is an essential public health program that serves all of California newborns. The timeliness of specimen collection, courier pick-up, and delivery to designated screening laboratories is vital.

General Logistics Systems (GLS) is the contracted courier for the state of California and is responsible for picking-up specimens from birth centers in a timely manner to ensure that all newborns are screened for serious genetic disorders.

It is vital that the GLS courier be allowed access to all birth facilities to pick up specimens that are awaiting processing. The California Newborn Screening Program depends on timely collection, as described in the California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Division 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter 9, Group 3, Article 2.

We appreciate your cooperation and flexibility to ensure that the GLS courier has access to your facility, or that arrangements are made to bring the samples to a place where the driver is able to wait. The driver will have limited wait time as they need to continue their route.

If you need additional information about the California Newborn Screening Program, **please call (415) 448-6262.**

