



MARK B HORTON, MD, MSPH  
*Director*

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
California Department of Public Health



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER  
*Governor*

August 30, 2010

Dear NBS Provider:

During the last few months, we've discovered a manufacturing problem with the form used to collect Newborn Screening (NBS) specimens (NBS-TRF). Some of the forms have insufficient glue between the various parts at the bottom tab and may become detached. If this happens during or after collecting a specimen, please make sure to staple the form back together at the bottom, initial the form where stapled, and write the baby's name and date of birth on any portion of the white space below the filter paper portion of the card, taking care not to contaminate the specimen. Do not write directly on the filter paper, only on the tag board below the actual specimen collection card. Taking these precautions will help prevent a sample being called inadequate and ensure timely testing.

If you encounter a card with insufficient glue before collecting a specimen, please examine your supply and use a non-defective form. In addition, please contact our office to report the defect, return the defective forms and obtain replacement forms.

While we hope the problem of insufficient glue was an isolated incident, please do not hesitate to contact Tina Santos at (510) 412-1434 if you encounter this problem.

Sincerely,

Erica G. Gordon, MA, Chief  
Newborn Screening Clinical Support Branch  
Genetic Disease Screening Program

cc: Karen Whitney, MS  
Ajit Bhandal, Ph.D.