



HOWARD BACKER, MD, MPH  
*Interim Director*

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



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
*Governor*

May 26, 2011

Dear Newborn Screening Provider:

It has come to our attention that some facilities are still using the California Newborn Screening Test Request Form (TRF) that begins with the number 25. These forms will actually expire July 31, 2011. However, to be safe and allow transport time, please discontinue use of these forms as of July 1<sup>st</sup>. Any specimen RECEIVED by our state contract laboratories after July 31<sup>st</sup>, no matter when it was collected, will be called **inadequate** and another specimen will need to be collected for that baby. In order to ensure that testing results are accurate, please collect specimens only on forms from the 26 million series after July 1<sup>st</sup>. Check all possible locations for forms that will expire soon: laboratory, nursery, NICU, outpatient lab, wherever you store pre-made packets, etc.

In June of last year, we sent you a letter indicating the expiration date for the 25 million series. Forms beginning with 26 began shipping in June 2010 and will expire August 31, 2012. The 27 million series forms will begin shipping later this year and will have an expiration date in 2014.

Whenever you receive new shipments of NBS TRF's, please be sure to use up all of your older forms before using the new TRF's. In general, forms are shipped at least a year or two before their expiration date. The expiration date is located in the lower right corner of the NBS copy of the TRF.

If you have any unopened packets of series 25 forms, please return them to:

California Newborn Screening Program  
Attn: Tina Santos  
850 Marina Bay Pkwy, F-175  
Richmond, CA 94804

You will not receive credit for these returned forms. If you have any loose series 25 TRF's that will not be used by the expiration date, please dispose of them by placing in your recycle bin, shredder, or trash. DO NOT leave any expired forms around as they might be used in error, causing an unnecessary inadequate.

If you have any questions, or would like to make changes to your future shipments, please call Tina Santos at (510) 412-1434.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ajit Bhandal, Chief  
Genetic Disease Laboratory

Cc: Fred Lorey, Leslie Gaffney, Karen Whitney, Erica Gordon