

Title 17. Public Health
Division 1. State Department of Health Services
Chapter 4. Preventive Medical Service
Subchapter 9. Testing for Heritable Disorders
Group 3. Newborn Screening Program
Article 4. Newborn Screening Participation Fee

Amend Section 6508 to read:

§ 6508. Newborn Screening Fee Collection.

(a) Perinatal licensed health facilities and birth attendants shall obtain from the Department a sufficient supply of specimen collection forms to permit collection of a blood specimen from each newborn required to be tested under this Group.

(b) The Department shall collect a fee for each specimen record form provided and a program participation fee for all services provided. The fee for a specimen form shall be \$1 and for program services shall be ~~\$144.70~~\$129.25 except for a comprehensive prepaid group practice direct health care service plan with 20,000 or more births in the last completed calendar year for which complete statistics are available, which elects to provide testing, follow-up and/or counseling services to its members. The fee for such plans shall be equal to the Department's cost of administration of the newborn screening program, to be determined by reducing the ~~\$144.70~~\$129.25 program service fee by the annual statewide average per infant contracted cost of laboratory testing, follow-up and/or counseling services rendered during the previous fiscal year. In order to qualify for this special fee a medical group serving a comprehensive prepaid group practice direct care service plan with 20,000 or more births shall sign a written agreement which contains the same standards and conditions, except as to payment or where specifically waived, as are applicable to the

newborn screening laboratories and Newborn Screening Area Service Centers, adhere to the regulations governing the program, and to submit to monitoring and evaluation of compliance. Failure to comply with these conditions after being given written notification and 30 days to correct deviations shall result in loss of the option. In the event the option is lost the State shall designate appropriate contractors to provide services.

The provisions of this section shall apply even if the newborn is part of a State-approved demonstration project.

(c) Birth attendants and physicians attending newborns who are under six days of age and who were not born in perinatal licensed health facilities and not subsequently admitted to perinatal licensed health facilities shall obtain a sufficient supply of specimen record forms to permit collection or shall arrange for a collection of a blood specimen from each such newborn attended.

(d) Birth attendants and physicians attending newborns and perinatal licensed health facilities shall not charge parents or third parties responsible for medical care coverage fees for participation in the newborn screening program in addition to those specified in this section, except for reasonable fees for costs of blood specimen collection and handling which shall not exceed \$6.

(e) The perinatal licensed health facility shall make available to the responsible physician, at no additional charge, specimen collection services or a specimen record form for obtaining either a repeat specimen for an inadequate specimen or a specimen on a newborn discharged without the test having been obtained.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 124977, 124996, 125000, 131050, 131051 and 131200, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 124977, 124996, 125000 and 125001, Health and Safety Code.