



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



**SANDRA SHEWRY**  
Director

**ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER**  
Governor

July 21, 2006

Subject: Newborn Screening Fee Increase August 1, 2006

Dear Laboratory Director:

This letter is to inform you that consistent with the 2006 Budget Act Chapters 47 and 48 the California Newborn Screening Program will be expanded to include screening for cystic fibrosis and biotinidase deficiency. We anticipate making these additions sometime next summer and will notify you of the actual start date in a subsequent letter.

To fund the expansion, the Department will increase the newborn screening fee to \$94.75 per completed test panel effective starting with newborns whose specimens are tested **August 1, 2006**. The change is reflected by regulation R-06-013E. Copies of the regulation may be obtained from the Office of Regulations.

California Department of Health Services  
Office of Regulations  
Mail Stop 0015  
P.O. Box 997413  
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

The change will be reflected in the billing by adjustment of the existing CPT Codes as follows:

82776	Galactose-1-phosphate uridyl transferase	\$18.95
83021	Hemoglobin fractionation and quantitation; chromatography	\$18.95
83498	Hydroxyprogesterone, 17-d (17-OHP)	\$18.95
83789	Tandem mass spectrometry; quantitative (MS/MS)	\$18.95
84443	Thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH)	\$18.95

The Department will still charge \$1 for each specimen collection card. Hospitals cannot charge more than the regulated fee, but they can charge up to \$6 for blood collection.

Newborn Screening Providers  
July 21, 2006  
page 2

Information on Newborn Screening for cystic fibrosis and biotinidase deficiency is available from our website ([www.dhs.ca.gov/nbs](http://www.dhs.ca.gov/nbs)) and other websites such as:

CARES: [www.caresfoundations.org](http://www.caresfoundations.org)

Alliance for Genetic Disorders: [www.geneticalliance.org](http://www.geneticalliance.org)

Star G Project: [www.newbornscreening.info](http://www.newbornscreening.info)

If you have any questions regarding the fee increase, please contact Leslie Gaffney at [lgaffney@dhs.ca.gov](mailto:lgaffney@dhs.ca.gov) or (510) 412-1460. Thank you for your continued support of the California Newborn Screening Program.

Sincerely,



John Sherwin, Ph.D., FACB  
Acting Chief, Genetic Disease Branch

cc: Chief Financial Officer  
Director of Patient Billing  
Accounts Payable Manager  
Kathleen Velazquez, M.P.H., M.A., Chief Newborn Screening Section  
Kris Calvin, MA, American Academy of Pediatrics  
Tracey St. Julian, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
Barbara Glaser, California Healthcare Association  
Leanne Gassaway, California Association of Health Care Plans  
Anne Eowan, Association of California Life and Health Insurance Companies  
Area Service Center Project Directors