

MLS Laboratory Update: Newborn Screening for Congenital Cytomegalovirus Began Today

FEBRUARY 6, 2023

Purpose of this Message:

To inform MLS Laboratories that screening for congenital CMV began today, Monday, February 6, 2023.

Action Item:

Read the notification and share with other laboratorians and clinical partners at your site.

Laboratory Specific Information:

- Effective Monday, February 6, 2023, any sample received by our laboratory will be tested for the presence of cytomegalovirus DNA. In preparation for this change, a letter (attachment 1) was sent to laboratory managers of all MN hospitals on November 4, 2022.
- No change in specimen requirements, cost, or turnaround time is anticipated at this time. However, we will be moving to a six-spot specimen card in the coming months.
- Changes to the newborn screening reports (attachment 2) have been made.

Background:

In January 2022, Minnesota's Newborn Screening Advisory Committee recommended adding congenital cytomegalovirus (CMV) to the newborn screening panel after a review required by the Vivian Act (Minnesota Statutes, section 144.064). In February 2022, the Commissioner of Health approved this recommendation, which was published in the State Register on September 6, 2022. Beginning February 6, 2023, the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) will screen all infants born in Minnesota for CMV.

For additional information about cCMV, visit [Blood Spot Disorders: Endocrine Disorders - MN Dept. of Health \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/newbornscreening/materials/factsheets/conditionsendo.html#cmv\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/newbornscreening/materials/factsheets/conditionsendo.html#cmv). We expect about 300 newborns will be born with cCMV annually in Minnesota. Pilot studies suggest that the majority of these babies are expected to be asymptomatic, whereas 20% of infants diagnosed with cCMV results in clinical disease. Signs of disease range from isolated hearing loss (which may occur postnatally) to systemic and severe neurodevelopmental manifestations. Screening will help identify infants at risk for cCMV who may benefit from follow-up monitoring and early access to interventions and treatment.

CMV screening results will be reported as "CMV Detected" or "CMV Not Detected." **This information will appear on a separate page of the screening report**, so please watch to be sure you receive and review all pages.

Questions: If you have any questions, please contact Holly Winslow by email at holly.winslow@state.mn.us or phone at (651) 201-5464.

Sincerely,

Jill Simonetti
Newborn Screening Program Manager

THIS IS AN UPDATE FROM THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH – PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY (MDH-PHL) AND THE MINNESOTA LABORATORY SYSTEM (MLS). THIS MESSAGE IS BEING SENT TO MLS LABORATORY CONTACTS SERVING MINNESOTA RESIDENTS. YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE.

PLEASE FORWARD THIS TO ALL APPROPRIATE PERSONNEL WITHIN YOUR INSTITUTION AND HEALTH SYSTEM

THE CONTENT OF THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL AND RESPONSE PARTNERS WHO HAVE A NEED TO KNOW THE INFORMATION TO PERFORM THEIR DUTIES. IT IS FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY. DO NOT DISTRIBUTE BEYOND THE INTENDED RECIPIENT GROUPS AS DESCRIBED IN THIS MESSAGE.

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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-5200.