

January 19, 2024

Ms. Rae Blaylark
Committee Chairperson
Advisory Committee on Heritable and Congenital Disorders

Dear Ms. Blaylark:

Thank you to the Advisory Committee on Heritable and Congenital Disorders for ensuring Minnesota's Newborn Screening Program is exemplary and leading in national efforts to be on the forefront of changes and additions to newborn screening panels. I would like to commend the advisory committee on its process, workgroup efforts, and evidence-based discussions regarding the benefits and harms of newborn screening for Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD).

I have reviewed the package of materials provided to me, which included:

- Outcomes of evidence-review workgroup discussions.
- Literature pertaining to relevant newborn screening pilots.
- Minutes and materials from advisory committee meetings.

Following review, I accept the committee's recommendation to expand the Minnesota newborn screening panel to include DMD.

The committee also recommended that CK-MM with molecular analysis of the dystrophin gene be used to test for DMD. The Newborn Screening Program will take this recommendation under advisement during the implementation process prior to selecting a screening algorithm based on currently available methodologies and health system capacities in Minnesota.

Please accept my personal thanks to you and the members on the committee for your valuable work to improve the health of Minnesota newborns.

Sincerely,

/s/

Brooke Cunningham, MD, PhD
Commissioner
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