



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

DAVID L. LAKEY, M.D.
COMMISSIONER

1100 W. 49th Street • Austin, Texas 78756
1-888-963-7111 • <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us>
TDD: 512-458-7708

January 24, 2006

Dear Provider,

Materials you received from DSHS in September and November indicated that the expansion of the Newborn Screening program would be implemented in early 2007. Due to a faster implementation than originally estimated, DSHS was able to report abnormal results in December 2006.

To protect the health of the newborn child, contact with providers was made as soon as the abnormal test results were available. We understand that these notifications may have caused some confusion since they came before the announced implementation date. We regret that these notifications may have caused confusion and we hope that you now have all of the information you need regarding the expansion.

Barring an unanticipated delay, the reporting of all screening results will begin the week of Feb. 5, 2007.

DSHS is committed to ongoing outreach and education efforts on the expansion of the Newborn Screening program. Information on the newborn screening program can be found at www.dshs.state.tx.us/newborn. If you have any questions, you may also contact newborn@dshs.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

Jann Melton-Kissel, RN, MBA
Director, Specialized Health Service Section

Susan U. Neill, Ph.D., M.B.A.
Director, Laboratory Services Section