

Newborn Screening Bulletin 2015-11 (page 1/2)

December 8, 2015

Please distribute this to your team and any staff who will be collecting and shipping newborn screening samples over the holidays.

Timely newborn screening is incredibly important. With the holiday season approaching, NSO would like to inform you of courier downtimes and suggest practical tips to ensure no baby experiences a delay in diagnosis.

Courier Downtimes:

In addition to usual weekend closures, Purolator will not be scheduling pick-ups on:

- Friday, December 25
- Monday, December 28
- Friday, January 1

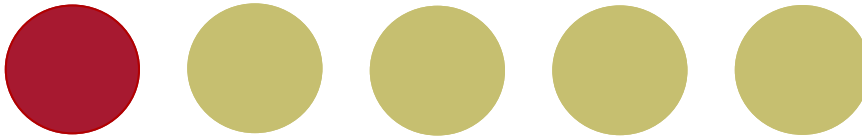
Holiday Tips:

To minimize potential delays caused by these holiday downtimes, please do the following:

- **Collect newborn screens between 24-72 hours of life**
 - If a baby is discharged at <24 hours of age, please collect a newborn screen before discharge and ask the family to return in the next 24 hours for a repeat screen.
- **Deliver samples to your shipping location (i.e. lab, unit clerk etc.) as soon as possible**
- **Ship samples every business day, as soon as they are dry**
 - In most cases, samples are received at NSO the morning after they are shipped (see table below). However, due to Purolator downtimes samples shipped on Thursday, December 24th will not be received at NSO until Tuesday, December 29. Likewise, samples shipped on Thursday, December 31 will not be received until Monday, January 4.
 - While these delays are unavoidable, shipping all samples that are ready on December 23 and December 30 is especially important.
 - **DO NOT** hold onto samples collected on Tuesday, December 22, Wednesday, December 23, and Thursday, December 24 for shipping on December 29 for fear that they will get 'lost' in the system over the holiday. The sooner samples get into the Purolator system, the sooner they will be delivered to NSO.
 - Ensure that samples collected Friday, December 25-Monday, December 28 are shipped on Tuesday, December 29.

We wish you a safe, happy and healthy holiday season and all the best for 2016.

Warm regards,
The NSO Team



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Newborn screening holiday reminder table*

* Handy to hang in areas where newborn screening samples are collected/shipped

Ship newborn screening samples every business day, as soon as they are dry

| IF YOU SHIP A SAMPLE ON.... | NSO SHOULD RECEIVE IT ON... |
|--|---|
| Monday, December 21 | Tuesday, December 22 |
| Tuesday, December 22 | Wednesday, December 23 |
| Wednesday, December 23 (*ship as many samples as possible today to avoid courier delays for samples shipped tomorrow) | Thursday, December 24 |
| Thursday, December 24 | Tuesday, December 29 (due to Purolator closure) |
| Tuesday, December 29 | Wednesday, December 30 |
| Wednesday, December 30 (*ship as many samples as possible today to avoid courier delays for samples shipped tomorrow) | Thursday, December 31 |
| Thursday, December 31 | Monday, January 4 th (due to Purolator closure) |

Questions? Call Newborn Screening Ontario at 1-877-NBS-8330 (1-877-627-8330)