



## Newborn Screening Bulletin 2016-2

March 4, 2016

### NSO Batchogram Report moving to a Quarterly Distribution

In January 2015, NSO launched a monthly Batchogram Report: an individualized graphical report showing the amount of time between newborn screening sample collection and receipt at NSO. Since then, continued widespread improvement in sample transit times has occurred. In 2014, 11% of samples took longer than 5 calendar days to reach NSO. In 2015, the number was 2.8%. This improvement was due to *your* efforts to ensure that Ontario newborns receive high quality and timely newborn screening.

In 2016, NSO will reduce the distribution of the Batchogram Report to a **quarterly release**, with first quarter data being distributed in April. The new report will provide data for all samples *collected* during the report period (previous reports included all samples *received* at NSO). New in this report will also be information about samples collected by your healthcare institution/midwifery practice that are unsatisfactory for testing, including the reason(s) why the sample(s) are not acceptable.

By request, you can still receive a monthly Batchogram and/or sample level report. We also welcome your feedback or suggestions for improving the report. Christine McRoberts, the NSO Quality Coordinator, can be contacted at 613-738-3222 ext. 1040 or by email at [cmcroberts@cheo.on.ca](mailto:cmcroberts@cheo.on.ca).

### New Web-based Shipment Tracking System—Pilot

NSO is continuously striving to deliver high quality and timely screening. In our efforts to optimize delivery of newborn screening samples to NSO, we are developing a new web-based shipment tracking system. The system, called STACS Track-It, will allow hospitals/midwifery practices and NSO to track the transit of shipments, at a sample level. The intent is that the new system will complement your existing workflow, and will eliminate the need for manual tracking logs, as many sites currently do. Furthermore, the system will include an automatic link with Purolator (or other courier service if required) so that the shipping process will be less cumbersome.

We plan to develop the system over the next 3 months, and then conduct a pilot with 5-10 sites to evaluate its effectiveness. **If your site is interested in participating in this pilot, please contact Jim Bottomley at [bottomley@cheo.on.ca](mailto:bottomley@cheo.on.ca).**