



Newborn Screening Bulletin #88

December 17, 2014

As we enter the holidays, please ensure all newborns in Ontario receive timely newborn screening so that a baby with an NSO-targeted disease can still receive prompt treatment despite holiday downtimes. Please distribute this bulletin to all those involved in newborn screening at your institution / practice.

1) Collect newborn screens between 24-72 hours of life. If a baby is discharged at <24 hours of age, please collect a screen prior to discharge and ask the family to return in the next 24 hours for a repeat screen.

2) Send samples as soon as possible on a business day—don't wait to have more samples to send. Sample batching increases the risk of a delay in diagnosis for a baby.

As soon as a sample is dry (at least 3 hours after collection) - ship it. For example:

- Samples collected Dec 19-21 - ship by Dec 22
- Samples collected Dec 22 - ship by Dec 23
- Samples collected Dec 23 - ship by Dec 24
- Samples collected Dec 24 - if dry, ship Dec 24 (Purolator will pick up on Dec 24th but is closed Dec 25 & 26th so the next pickup won't be until Monday Dec 29)
- Samples collected Dec 25-28—ship on Dec 29

3) If you have questions don't hesitate to contact NSO at 1-877-627-8330



On Purolator.com use the "Tracking Reference" field to enter which samples are in each package. For example: B123456, B123457, etc. This helps both you & NSO track individual samples.