

DATE: June 13, 2012

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members

FROM: Dr. Diana Yu

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS
CONCERNING SEVERE COMBINED IMMUNODEFICIENCY

Background and Summary:

All children born in Washington are tested for certain congenital conditions through newborn screening. The Board determines which conditions should be included in the newborn screening panel according to Chapter 70.83 RCW, and designates conditions in Chapter 246-650 WAC. The Board relies on an advisory committee to apply the Board's five criteria and recommend whether a proposed condition should be added to the newborn screening panel. On February 22, 2012, the Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID) Advisory Committee met to consider SCID against the Board's criteria in order to make a recommendation to the Board.

Today the Board will have an opportunity to review the committee's application of the criteria and make a final decision as to whether to accept the advisory committee's recommendation.

If the Board accepts the committee recommendation the Department of Health, which is responsible for operating the screening program, will complete its examination of the fiscal effect of adding the condition, determine the feasibility of increasing fees to cover the costs, and attempt to secure legislative approval for the increase. If successful, Washington State Board of Health will add SCID to Chapter 246-650 WAC; and the Department of Health will implement the screening for SCID.

Mike Glass, director of the Newborn Screening at the Department of Health, is here today to describe the advisory committee's review of the five criteria and its recommendation to the Board. Pamela Lovinger, Senior Adviser for Policy and Business Practice in the Department's Division of Disease Control and Health Statistics, will discuss the fiscal effect of adding the condition and explain how the Department will determine the feasibility of obtaining sustainable funding.

Recommended Board Action:

Depending on testimony offered and the Board's discussions, the Board may choose to consider, amend if necessary, and adopt the following motion:

The Board accepts the recommendations of the Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID) Advisory Committee with the understanding that implementation will be contingent on the feasibility of obtaining sustainable funding.

Staff Contact: Tara Wolff
