



**DATE:** October 9, 2013

**TO:** Washington State Board of Health Members

**FROM:** Dr. Diana Yu

**SUBJECT:** PUBLIC HEARING-- NEWBORN SCREENING CHAPTER 246-650 WAC

---

### **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 these 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 June 13, 2012 the Board accepted the recommendations of the Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID) Advisory Committee to add SCID to the newborn screening panel. The motion also specified that implementation was contingent on securing funding.

On May 10, 2013, a CR 101 was filed as WSR 13-11-040 to initiate rulemaking because the legislature approved an increase of the newborn screening fee to cover screening costs and the Health Care Authority assured the Board it planned to cover the fee increase in their hospital reimbursement rebase. Early detection of SCID through newborn screening will allow infants to receive bone marrow transplants before damage is caused by the disorder and while the child can still be cured of the condition. Without treatment a child with SCID is vulnerable to life threatening infections during their first years of life.

A CR 102 for this rule was filed on September 4, 2013 as WSR 13-11-040. The proposed rule change defines SCID and adds it to the list of conditions that newborns are screened for at birth.

Mike Glass, director of the Newborn Screening Program at the Department of Health, will brief you on the proposed rule changes, the process used to revise the rule, and summarize the comments received and our responses.

### **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 approves the amendments to revise WAC 246-650-010 and WAC 246-650-020 as published in WSR 13-11-040. It also asks that WAC 246-650-030 be repealed, and that a CR-103 is filed to adopt the amendments to WAC 246-650-010 and WAC 246-650-020 and establish an effective date.*

**Staff Contact:** Tara Wolff

---