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Newborn Screening Rule Revision

Washington State Board of Health
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Lain Knowles, Office Director, Newborn Screening

Purpose

- Background
- Proposed rule language
- Comments
- Board action

Brief Background

- HB 2544 passed in 2014 session
- Existing rule: Chapter 246-650 WAC
- Rule changes required for consistency
- Exception rulemaking process

HB 2544 Revisions

- Inclusion of births from all sources
- Specific time frames:
 - ✓ Specimen collection time – 48 hours
 - ✓ Specimen transit time – 72 hours
- Reporting of parent/guardian notification
- Department of Health annual compliance report

Housekeeping Changes

- Updating of references
- Re-numbering of sections

Comments Received

General Comment Topic	Number of Comments
Adding new conditions	2
Midwife billing	15
Privacy issues	1
Clarification of proposed language	1
Ability to decline testing	4

DOH Suggested Modification to Proposed Rule

- 246-650-040(2)(c) The time taken by health care providers to notify parents and guardians after being notified by department about infant screening tests that indicate a suspicion of abnormality that requires further diagnostic evaluation. Notification times will be summarized and reported in increments of days.

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