DATE: **October 8, 2014**

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members

FROM: Diana T. Yu, MD, MSPH

SUBJECT: **UPDATE: NEWBORN SCREENING REQUEST**

Background and Summary:

The Washington State Board of Health has the duty under RCW 70.83.050 to define and adopt rules for screening Washington-born infants for inheritable conditions. Chapter 246-650-020 WAC lists conditions for which all newborns must be screened. In order to determine which conditions to include in the newborn screening panel, the Board convenes an advisory committee to apply its five criteria. The five criteria are prevention potential and medical rationale, treatment available, public health rationale, available technology, and cost-benefit/cost-effectiveness. The purpose of today's update is to ask the Board to approve two new activities related to newborn screening, remind the Board of an existing newborn screening commitment, and to describe the order in which these activities will be carried out.

The Board's five criteria for newborn screening were developed about 10 years ago. Over the years, they have performed well; however, we are at a point when it would be useful to review them given the much larger number and variety of conditions we are now able to screen.

In June, the American Heart Association requested the Board convene an advisory committee to apply our criteria to Critical Congenital Heart Disease (CCHD). The newborn screening rule does not currently include CCHD. However, all hospitals in Washington are currently voluntarily screening newborns for CCHD. I have discussed this request with members of the health promotion committee. After looking at the materials we received in June, the committee members feel there is a case to be made for establishing an advisory committee to evaluate CCHD.

As you may recall, earlier this year, the Board agreed to evaluate Adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD). I suggest that it would most logical for the Board to review its newborn screening criteria before convening advisory committees to review new conditions.

Recommended Board Actions:

Motion: *The Board will begin an evaluation of the five newborn screening criteria used to determine whether or not a condition should be included in the newborn screening panel. At a later stage, the Board will convene advisory committees to evaluate Critical Congenital Heart Disease (CCHD) and Adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD).*

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