



DATE: April 8, 2015

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members

FROM: Diana T. Yu, MD, MSPH

SUBJECT: NEWBORN SCREENING CRITERIA REVIEW

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 heritable 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 evaluate candidate conditions using an established set of criteria.

On October 8, 2014, the Board approved a motion to evaluate the current five newborn screening criteria. These criteria were developed about 10 years ago, and have performed well over the years. The five criteria are: prevention potential and medical rationale, treatment available, public health rationale, available technology, and cost-benefit/cost-effectiveness. Given the much larger number and variety of conditions we are now able to screen, the Board decided to review the current criteria to make sure they were still valid.

On March 6, 2015, a Criteria Review Advisory Committee was convened to: 1) review the five State Board of Health (SBOH) newborn screening (NBS) criteria to see if language is appropriate or needed to be modified, 2) determine if new criteria should be added, 3) identify a small set of criteria to serve as “minimum requirements” or “Qualifying Assumptions” which State Board of Health and Department of Health (DOH) staff could apply to determine if requested conditions were ready for review by an advisory committee, and 4) develop an ethical framework or guiding principles to govern the evaluation of any new potential condition. The committee’s recommendations have been summarized into a report, for our review and possible adoption today.

Members of the public, staff at DOH, and/or Board members can request that the Board review a particular condition for possible inclusion in the NBS panel. Last year, the Board received and accepted requests to convene advisory committees to evaluate Critical Congenital Heart Disease (CCHD) and Adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD). If the Board accepts the criteria review recommendations today, the revised criteria will be used to conduct evaluations of these two conditions for possible inclusion in the NBS panel. Mike Glass, SBOH and Tara Wolff, SBOH will present the Criteria Review Advisory Committee recommendations for our consideration.

Recommended Board Action:

***Motion:** The Board approves and adopts the recommendations of the Criteria Review Advisory Committee to add three guiding principles, a qualifying assumption, and five updated NBS criteria to determine whether or not a condition should be included in the newborn screening panel.*

Staff Contact: Mike Glass and Tara Wolff