



**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**  
*Department of General Services*  
*Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services*

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Dear Health Care Provider:

Since 1966, the Virginia Newborn Screening (NBS) Program has enhanced the lives of the babies born in the Commonwealth by screening for genetic and metabolic disorders that pose the risk of causing mental retardation, hearing loss, developmental disabilities, liver disease or sudden death. Early detection and treatment has shown to diminish or eliminate the harmful effects of these disorders.

In accordance with legislation enacted to amend the Code of Virginia §32.1-65 and 12VAC5-71 Regulations Governing Virginia Newborn Screening Services, the Virginia NBS Program is planning the following changes:

1. The addition of two disorders to Virginia's NBS dried blood spot screening panel – Pompe disease and Mucopolysaccharidosis type-1 (MPS-1).
  - o The addition of these two lysosomal storage disease disorders are in keeping with the uniform condition panel recommended by the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children.
  - o The addition of Pompe and MPS-1 is currently on track for a January 1, 2019 implementation date.
2. The expansion of dried blood spot laboratory screening to seven days a week for time critical disorders as identified by the U.S. Secretary of HHS and the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children
  - o Implementation of expanded laboratory testing services shall become effective January 1, 2019.

In preparation, the Department of General Services, Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services must acquire instrumentation, validate new screening and reflex testing methods, hire and train laboratory staff, adjust courier pickup schedules and update the NBS information management system. Likewise the Virginia Department of Health, Office of Family Health Services must hire staff, develop educational materials for Pompe and MPS-1 and evaluate and identify available resources throughout the Commonwealth for diagnostic testing and treatment of affected infants.

Therefore, effective August 1, 2018, the fee charged for the NBS filter paper collection devices will be increased to \$1,012 per kit of 10 devices (\$101.20 per collection device). This fee increase, while significant, will add two new critical newborn disorders and 7 day a week testing to Virginia's NBS Program which will ultimately save the lives of our youngest citizens. Collection devices currently on hand in your facility will be accepted until their expiration. Ordering during the remainder of July 2018 will be controlled to ensure the availability of remaining stock. *A copy of the modified NBS Kit Request order form is attached, for orders placed after August 1, 2018. If you need additional information, please contact Ms. Willie Andrews at (804)648-4480 x153 or by email [willie.andrews@dqs.virginia.gov](mailto:willie.andrews@dqs.virginia.gov).*

Sincerely yours,

Denise M. Toney, Ph.D., HCLD