



November 28, 2023

CRESCENT
CITY, ON

RE: [REDACTED], BABY BOY
DOB: [REDACTED]

Reference #: NXXXXXXXX-XXXX
Health Card #: [REDACTED]

A blood sample was taken from your baby shortly after birth for the newborn screening test. Unfortunately, this sample was not satisfactory for testing and a repeat test is needed. We notified EXAMPLE HOSPITAL that a repeat sample from your baby was needed but we have not yet received one.

We are sending you this letter to make sure you know that your baby's newborn screen is not complete and a new sample is needed, in case EXAMPLE HOSPITAL has not been able to reach you.

What is newborn screening?

Using a heel prick test, a small amount of blood is collected from all babies shortly after birth. This blood is sent to Newborn Screening Ontario where it is tested for rare treatable diseases. With these diseases, early diagnosis is the key to effective treatment. Early detection of these diseases through newborn screening prevents serious health problems and can save lives.

Newborn screening is not mandatory. It is considered the standard of care for every baby and is highly recommended. Newborn screening is the only way to find babies with these diseases early enough to prevent serious, long-term health problems. Additional information can be found in the enclosed pamphlet and at www.newbornscreening.on.ca.

Why does my baby need a repeat newborn screening test?

Your baby may need a repeat test if:

- Your baby's first sample was taken before 24 hours of age
- Not enough blood was taken
- The sample was of poor quality

It is important that the repeat sample is taken as soon as possible so that your baby gets the full benefit of newborn screening. Needing a repeat sample does not mean there is anything wrong with your baby.

Who should I contact to have a repeat sample taken?

Please contact the post-partum / mother-baby floor at the hospital where your baby was born or your midwife, who is responsible for arranging the repeat test. The repeat sample needs to be taken on a special filter paper that is NOT available at most community blood laboratories. For this reason, most babies born in hospital will have to go back to the hospital where they were born for their repeat test.

If you or your baby's health care provider (doctor / nurse practitioner / midwife) has questions about this letter you can contact Newborn Screening Ontario at 1-877-627-8330.

cc: EXAMPLE HOSPITAL

Fax: 1999999999

Fax:





Confidential Fax

To: EXAMPLE HOSPITAL **From:** Newborn Screening Ontario

Fax: 19999999999 **Pages:** 2 (including cover page)

Re: Newborn Screening Report **Date:** November 28, 2023

URGENT PLEASE COMMENT x FOR REVIEW PLEASE REPLY

Hello,

Please see the attached letter on which you have been cc'ed.

Thank you,

Newborn Screening Ontario

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