

Kansas Department of Health and Environment
1000 SW Jackson St.
Topeka, KS 66612

MONTHLY QUALITY REPORTS AVAILABLE

Each month collection facilities receive a Neonatal Monthly Summary from the State Laboratory which includes information about newborn screening samples submitted during the previous month; number of samples submitted, number of unacceptable samples, and number of abnormal results for the facility as well as state totals. This information is useful for each facility's NBS quality assurance. The NBS Follow-up team at KDHE recently surveyed the Quality Directors and Risk Managers at each collection facility to ask if they would like a copy of this informational monthly report. Currently, twenty-one facilities have requested this report be sent directly to their QA and/or RM Directors. If your facility would like to be included in this special project, please contact Linda Williams at: lwilliams@kdheks.gov or 785-296-3617

Above: Example of monthly summary



New Resource for Families

Kansans with disabilities now have a “one-stop shop” for resources throughout the state that may be able to provide them with services or information. The Kansas Resource Guide (KRG) is a collaborative effort which connects consumers with service providers. Information can be found on advocacy, adult and aging services, disability services, education, employment, health care services, nutrition and wellness, women and children's services and youth services (age 14-25). Searches can be done for a geographical area and/or specific services. The search provides links to partners' websites, where more detailed information can be found.

The Kansas Resource Guide is administered through the Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) section of the Bureau of Family Health at KDHE. Please share this valuable resource!



The KRG website is:
www.kansasresourceguide.org

KRG is also available by phone:
1-800-332-6262

If you have questions about the program, please contact:
kansasresourceguide@kdheks.gov

Wait! Why Weight?



The blood spot card requests two weights—birth weight and current weight of the infant. It is important to remember to provide both weights as they are used to interpret several lab results.

One way the birth weight is used to estimate if the infant is premature. This is important when interpreting hemoglobin test results where the infant may show a weak “A” hemoglobin (reported as “@”). When an infant has a weak “A” hemoglobin and its birth weight is <1500 gm, a repeat specimen is requested when the infant is at least 32 weeks gestational age. For a full-term infant, the weak “A” may indicate a more serious condition, β thalassemia.

The infant's current weight also is used to interpret the results for congenital adrenal hyperplasia (CAH). Having the weight of the infant at the time of the blood collection provides accurate results for CAH.



“BIG SHOUT OUT”

Top collection facilities for 4th Quarter 2011!

| Facility Name | Facility Total | Total Unsat % | BSC Unsat % |
|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| NEWMAN REGIONAL HEALTH | 100 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| NEOSHO MEMORIAL HOSPITAL | 84 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| WILLIAM NEWTON MEM HOSP | 60 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| SALINA REG HEALTH CENTER | 299 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| PROVIDENCE MEDICAL CENTER | 240 | 0.8 | 0.0 |
| KANSAS UNIV MED CTR | 488 | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| HAYS MEDICAL CENTER | 194 | 1.0 | 0.0 |
| SAINT JOSEPH MEDICAL CTR | 544 | 1.1 | 0.7 |

Two NBS Staff Members Complete Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute Training

The Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute (KPHLI) is a nine-month leadership training program facilitated through the WALD Center at the KU School of Medicine—Wichita. It is open to workers in public health or affiliated programs. KPHLI provides an opportunity to develop and improve leadership competencies, gain additional knowledge regarding public health and form relationships with other public health leaders. The goal of KPHLI is to positively impact the Kansas public health system by improving the leadership competencies of its workforce to improve public health infrastructure and reduce health disparities.



Above: Stacey Sandstrom and Linda Williams

This past year two newborn screening staff members participated in Cycle IX of KPHLI—Stacey Sandstrom, Health Section Chief at Kansas Health & Environmental Laboratories (KHEL) and Linda Williams, NBS Follow-up Coordinator, KDHE. Their capstone project, “Development and Implementation of an Electronic Data Sharing System between Kansas Vital Statistics and Kansas Newborn Screening Program”, will be presented at the upcoming 7th Annual Spring Public Health Conference, April 24 & 25 in Wichita. This project is the culmination of several years’ work to integrate the Vital Statistics birth records with the Newborn Screening Program’s data system. Three beta sites will test the system prior to going live later this year. More information about this project and trainings will be in future newsletters; once implemented, every birthing facility will use this system to submit crucial blood spot card information.

Parent Support Liaison Project

Care coordination is an essential component of effective medical homes; especially for children and youth with special health care needs. The National Center on Medical Home Implementation (NCMHI) defines care coordination as a family-centered, relationship-based, interdisciplinary activity necessary to ensure optimal behavioral, developmental, health and wellness outcomes for children and youth (NCHMI, 2011). A recent project of the “Systems in Sync” grant funded by the Health Resources Services Administration is working to address care coordination and medical home in four specialty care clinics in Kansas.

The Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) Program at KDHE and Families Together, a non-profit organization that assists families with special health care needs, have partnered together to provide support for parents in assigned clinics. This project utilizes a parent of a child with special health care needs to work individually with families and parents of clinic patients. The Parent Support Liaison (PSL) was hired by Families Together to support stronger partnerships between families and providers, link families and patients to needed services and resources, reduce barriers in accessing needed services, and improve health outcomes for patients and their families.

Currently there is a PSL located in the Cerebral Palsy and Spina Bifida clinics in Kansas City and the PKU and Hemoglobinopathies clinics in Wichita. The project has been well received by both families and providers in the clinics; and both CYSHCN and Families Together are reviewing data to determine whether an extension of the original project may be possible. Contact Heather Smith for more information: hsmith@kdheks.gov

At a Glance—4th Quarter (October—December 2011)

| | |
|---|--------|
| Total # of Samples Tested: | 11,015 |
| Total Unsatisfactory Samples: | 472 |
| Average Percent Unsatisfactory Samples: | 4.3 % |
| Total Unsatisfactory Blood Spots: | 247 |
| Average Percent Unsatisfactory Blood Spots: | 2.2 % |
| Goal for Unsatisfactory Blood Spots: | 1.3 % |



Hold the Highlighters, Please!

While highlighters may be useful for facilities to mark certain fields on the blood spot card demographic area, this practice is problematic for the lab’s imaging system. Each submitted card is scanned into an image storage system. If there are any questions regarding what was submitted on the card, our lab has the capability of pulling the electronic scan to verify the information. Unfortunately, the use of highlighters causes problems with the scan. Wherever there is a highlighted field, the scan shows a black area where the highlighter has been used and no information can be recovered from the scanned image.

Please refrain from using highlighters on submitted blood spot cards! Thanks!



CONTACT US!

| | |
|--------------|---|
| LABORATORY: | 1-785-296-1650 (Phone) 1-758-296-0978 (Fax) |
| FOLLOW-UP: | 1-785-291-3363(Phone) 1-785-296-2950 (Fax) |
| ORDER CARDS: | 1-785-296-1623 (Phone) 1-785-296-1641 (Fax) |