



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
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October 8, 2008

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members
FROM: Dr. Diana Yu, SBOH Member
SUBJECT: **NEWBORN SCREENING PROGRAM BRIEFING—WAC 246-650-040**

Summary and Background

According to WAC 246-650-040, the Department of Health (DOH) shall report to the Board annually the following information concerning newborn screening tests: (1) the costs of tests as charged by the Department; (2) the results of each category of tests, by county of birth and ethnic group, as reported on the newborn screening form and, if available, birth certificates; and (3) follow-up procedures and the results of such follow-up procedures.

Although I know that the newborn screening program is of great interest to the Board, we have not had one of these special briefings for some time. The Department will present newborn screening data for calendar years 2005 and 2006 today. During the 2005-2006 time period, the number of conditions screened for changed from nine to ten when the Board added cystic fibrosis to the panel of newborn screening conditions. The Department began screening for cystic fibrosis on March 15, 2006. In May 2008, the Board added 15 more conditions to the panel. The Department will also present its experience to date on screening for these new conditions.

Today I have invited Dr. Jude Van Buren, Assistant Secretary for the DOH Division of Epidemiology, Health Statistics and the Public Health Laboratories, and Mike Glass, the Director of the DOH Newborn Screening Program, to provide a report to you in compliance with WAC 246-650-040.

Recommended Board Action

There is no recommended Board action.