

### **Medical Providers in Alabama are notified of abnormal newborn screening results by:**

- Mail as long as the provider is identified on the specimen collection form.
- Immediate phone call and mail for potential positives and/or abnormal results that are outside of set cutoff values.
- Healthcare providers are encouraged to use Alabama's Voice Response System (AVRS) to obtain newborn screening results (see page 14).

### **The role and responsibilities of primary healthcare providers and birthing hospitals in newborn screening follow-up may include:**

1. Ensuring that newborn screening occurs and that results are known. Do not assume the newborn screen is normal if not notified of an abnormal result as some of the following may occur:
  - Provider information may be missing or inaccurate on form.
  - Specimens may be lost in the mail.
  - Hospitals may fail to collect a newborn screen prior to hospital discharge or transfer.
2. Be first contact in transmitting out-of-range or invalid screening test results to families in a knowledgeable and sensitive fashion.
3. Facilitating repeat or confirmatory testing and appropriate subspecialty care and reporting the results of confirmatory tests and the diagnosis to the Alabama Newborn Screening Program.
4. Collecting a repeat newborn screen as soon as possible if the first test is unsatisfactory.
5. Ensuring that the recommended hearing screening method is used for rescreening of infants who fail an initial screen (see page 39).
6. Obtaining a signed statement for parent refusal of newborn screening (see page 17).
7. Collecting a second newborn screen at 2-6 weeks of age (4 weeks optimal) on full-term infants and 4-12 weeks for low birth weight infants (less than 2000 grams) since hypothalamic immaturity could obscure meaningful TSH elevations.
8. Ensuring that provider contact information stays current with the state lab so that collection forms and test reports can be provided appropriately (see page 36).

Reference: Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI). *Newborn Screening Follow-up; Approved Guideline*. CLSI document I/LA27-A.