

200 Piedmont Avenue, SE Atlanta, Georgia 30334

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MEMORANDUM

June 7, 2024

To: Georgia Public Health Laboratory Newborn Screening Submitters

From: Tonia Parrott, PhD, HCLD

Deputy Director, Georgia Public Health Laboratory

Tracy Kavanaugh, MS, MCHES

Newborn and Well Child Screening Manager

RE: Updated Newborn Screening Cards

Effective July 1, 2024, the Georgia Newborn Screening Program will begin using updated newborn screening cards (see below) to collect dried blood spot specimens. These new cards will be sent to providers beginning June 24. We request that you begin using them on **July 1, 2024**.

The card updates include the following:

Additional Preprinted Circle (Blood Spot): The new card will transition from 5 preprinted circles to 6 preprinted circles for blood collection. The additional spot will allow Georgia to test for conditions added to the newborn screening panel.

Meconium ileus Check Box: The card now has a new field to capture babies identified as having an intestinal blockage due to meconium ileus. This will assist with detecting newborns who may be at risk of having cystic fibrosis.

Serial Number Format: Serial numbers on the newborn screening cards have been updated to include GA at the beginning of the 12-digit serial number (i.e., kit number, form number). The new serial number format is GA000000001.

The Newborn Screening Program will provide training through the release of the 2024 Georgia Newborn Screening Policy and Procedure Manual, recorded webinar trainings, and monthly office hours. Additional information can be found at www.dph.ga.gov/NBS.

If you have additional questions, please contact the Georgia Public Health Laboratory at (404) 321-2281 or (404) 327-6890.

