



October 31, 2019

**RE: Changes to the New York State Newborn Screening Program's Hemoglobinopathy Algorithm**

Dear Health Care Provider,

Please be advised that specimens received and tested as of September 25, 2019 will be screened for hemoglobinopathies using high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) only. HPLC results will be repeated; however, they will no longer be reflexed to isoelectric focusing (IEF) for confirmation with a second method. The HPLC method is robust and currently used by many newborn screening and diagnostic laboratories as a single method to detect traits and hemoglobinopathies. Upon review of data from newborns with hemoglobinopathies in NYS, there is excellent concordance between HPLC and IEF. Because IEF is a second-tier test and used for confirmation of infants with suspected disease, the number and type of referrals will not change when IEF is discontinued.

Thank you for your cooperation in making New York State's Newborn Screening Program the best it can be. Questions can be directed to our main telephone number 518-473-7552.

Sincerely,

Michele Caggana, Sc.D., FACMG  
Director, Newborn Screening Program