## **Public Health Division**

## Oregon State Public Health Laboratory Northwest Regional Newborn Bloodspot Screening



Date: November 7, 2024

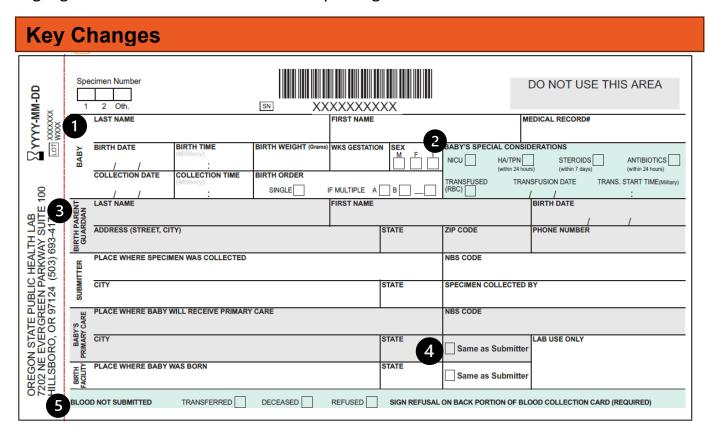
To: Newborn Bloodspot Screening submitters, hospitals, midwives, clinics

From: Northwest Regional Newborn Screening (NWRNBS) Program

**Subject:** NEW Newborn Bloodspot Screening Cards

The Northwest Regional Newborn Screening Program has redesigned its bloodspot collection cards. We expect the new cards will be available in early 2025. They are more user friendly to help improve data collection. Please share this announcement with your team and reach out to the NWRNBS program if you have any questions or concerns.

Highlighted in the card below are five key changes:



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- **1. Organization:** The card has been reorganized into horizontal sections, reading from left to right: Baby, Birth Parent/Guardian, Submitter, Baby's Primary Care Provider, Birth Facility.
- **2. Baby's Special Considerations:** This section includes all the special considerations for newborns which can impact the evaluation of the test results.
- 3. Updated Language: Language has been updated from "mother" to birth parent/guardian" to be more inclusive of the birthing experiences of Oregon families. In addition, the letter "I" has been added to the sex field to provide clarity for indeterminate genitalia.
- **4. Same as Submitter:** Check boxes have been added to indicate that the baby's primary care provider or birth facility is the same as the submitter. In these cases, the detailed fields would not need to be completed (place, NBS code, city, state).
- 5. Blood Not Submitted: This new section is a new initiative for the program. A collection card should be completed and sent to the lab for every baby born in the state. If blood will not be collected, the appropriate reason can be chosen (transfer, deceased, refused). A no-cost replacement card will be issued to the birth facility or community birth provider. In the case of parent refusal, the exemption form will now be located on the back of filter paper card.

## What can I do now to prepare for the new cards?

Continue to use your stock of current cards until new cards are issued. When ordering more cards, plan to have enough supplies to last through March of 2025.

The NWRNBS program is developing a process for card exchange (current cards for the new cards). More details will be available in the coming months.

Thank you in advance for working with us to implement the new cards.