

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary

**Laboratories Administration** Robert A. Myers, Ph.D., Director 1770 Ashland Avenue

## **MEMORANDUM**

To:

Medical Laboratory Directors, Local Health Officers and

Health Care Providers

From:

Fizza Gulamali-Majid, Ph.D. F. C. M. Division Chief, Newborn and Childhood Screening

Through: Robert A. Myers, Ph.D.

Director, Laboratories Administration

Date:

April 6, 2020

Subject: Routine Hardcopy of Newborn Screening Test Results

Due to the reduced administrative workforce during the COVID-19 State of Emergency-Elevated II Status, the Maryland Public Health Laboratory will discontinue the routine hardcopy mailing of Newborn Screening (NBS) test results to submitters.

This paperless decision was accelerated due to the COVID-19 crisis but originated in 2018 to ensure compliance with the Public Health Services (Healthy Beginnings) Strategic Plan 2017-2019 requiring Laboratories Administration to implement a comprehensive e-reporting system for NBS test results reporting. Effective April 6, 2020, we will be going paperless in the distribution of NBS test results to ensure we comply with that goal.

There are many advantages to going paperless:

- Cost Savings: Cut administrative expenses and maintenance fees.
- Increased Security: No more paper reports on desks. Reports are accessed on a password encrypted secured server.
- Increased Productivity: Faster record retrieval and access. No more shuffling through piles of paper.

If you have an existing MYLIMS (Starlims) account no additional action or steps are required. If you do not have an existing MYLIMS (StarLims) account please email: mdphl.nbs@maryland.gov or call (443) 681-3900 for account setup. If you need a report faxed to you please contact us at (443) 681-3900 or email:mdphl.nbs@maryland.gov.

We feel this initiative will reduce costs and increase operational efficiencies.

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