

Message for Primary Care Physicians Regarding an Abnormal Neonatal Hemoglobin Screening Test

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Newborn Screening Program, when reporting the finding of an unknown hemoglobin variant, has been suggesting hematology consultation. However, with rare exceptions these babies are hematologically normal and have a silent hemoglobin mutation of no clinical consequence. The DSHS is therefore giving consideration to no longer recommending a consultation.

To assist you and the family, we have designed the attached information sheet which provides reassurance and suggests several simple steps to be certain that the baby does not have a significant hemoglobin problem.

We hope that this information will be helpful to you and the parents of your patients with a “F, A, other” pattern on the newborn hemoglobin screening.

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