Good afternoon.

The Illinois Department of Public Health Newborn Screening Program will begin implementing a six day operating schedule (Monday through Saturday) effective July 1, 2018. This change is being made to shorten the turnaround time of screening babies for critical diseases.

Due to this change, the IDPH Laboratory will now be able to accept NBS shipments from couriers, which we have been unable to do in the past. We are currently working with United Parcel Service (UPS) who is the state courier for shipping NBS specimens. In order to make this change, UPS will be implementing their “Campus Ship” software in hospitals that utilize UPS to ship their NBS specimens. There are a lot of benefits to using this software, such as creating and printing your own personalized labels for shipments, synchronizing pickups, and an enhanced specimen tracking system. This will ultimately lead to increased timeliness of specimen deliveries.

I have attached a power point presentation that UPS shared with us to highlight the benefits of this system, but more information will be coming in the days ahead. We are hoping to roll out one network at a time this summer, starting in the Chicagoland area. If you have any additional questions, please contact me. Thank you for your continued support of the Illinois Newborn Screening Program.

Shannon

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