



August 25, 2010

Michele A. Lloyd-Puryear, M.D., Ph.D.  
Executive Secretary  
Secretary's Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children  
Chief, Genetic Services Branch  
Division of Services for Children with Special Health Needs  
Maternal and Child Health Bureau  
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 18-A-19  
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Dr. Lloyd-Puryear,

Thank you for including the joint presentation by Dr. Carole Greene and Dr. Bin Chen on the agenda for the September 2010 meeting of the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children (SACHDNC). As Dr. Chen noted previously, CDC's intent is to discuss the good laboratory practices for biochemical genetic testing and newborn screening recommended by the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Advisory Committee (CLIAC) and to update the SACHDNC members on CDC's efforts to develop the new *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* (MMWR) guideline that would also include additional input we receive from other HHS agencies and advisory committees to complement the CLIAC recommendations.

CDC is seeking consultation with SACHDNC in the following areas:

- Considering the CLIAC recommendations, are there issues CDC should explain or clarify for the newborn screening laboratory community or biochemical genetic testing laboratories in the upcoming MMWR document? What recommendations can SACHDNC provide?
- Are there issues CDC should address in the MMWR guideline pertaining to newborn screening laboratory practice that were not addressed in the CLIAC recommendations? If so, can SACHDNC provide recommendations in these areas?
- How should CDC encourage the implementation of the recommended practices once the prospective MMWR guideline is published? What efforts should be taken and who should be reached as partners or collaborators to help with these efforts?

The current MMWR timeline calls for a draft document to be ready for circulation with collaborating agencies (including HRSA) in September. However, in order to provide additional time for SACHDNC members to review appropriate background materials that will be provided prior to the September 2010 meeting, CDC proposes to fund a special meeting of the Committee via teleconference to obtain input from the members, provided the meeting can be convened and the consultation can be completed by the end of October 2010.

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This approach will allow the Committee to provide valuable input intended to complement the CLIAC recommendations. The Division of Laboratory Science and Standards looks forward to this and future opportunities to work with SACHDNC and other federal agencies and advisory committees to prepare the best guidance for clinical laboratories, patients, and their healthcare providers.

Respectfully,

Roberta B. Carey, Ph.D.  
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