



To Our Members:

We want to thank you for all you are doing and will continue to do in response to this unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic. Your dedication and service are unwavering. DSHPSHWA appreciates that you are all facing many challenges as we seek to navigate this current situation. We are here to support you in any way that we can.

Inpatient newborn screening, including metabolic screening, hearing screening, and screening for critical congenital heart disease, is an essential service. As such, inpatient screening should continue, uninterrupted, to the greatest extent possible. States should follow guidance from any/all of the following: 1) State legislation; 2) State or National Executive Orders; 3) Local ordinances or orders such as “shelter in place”; and 4) decisions made by individual health care systems. Adjustments to protocols for scheduling follow-up are becoming necessary in most states.

Outpatient services, including re-screening, diagnostic audiology evaluation, and intervention services may be delayed at this time due to several factors including: 1) State or National Executive Orders; 2) Local ordinances or orders such as “shelter in place”; 3) decisions made by individual health care systems/providers; and 4) parent reluctance to take infants out during this time. These situations are very fluid.

We encourage all of you to continue getting information from reliable sources, such as the CDC and your State Departments of Health.

In the interim, DSHPSHWA will be partnering with NCHAM, AAP, FL3/H&V, CDC and HRSA to identify resources and recommended policies and processes that will help us now and as we enter the recovery period.

We will keep you updated weekly through EHDl Chats with any new developments.

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