



AMENDMENTS PROPOSED TO DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA REGULATIONS GOVERNING NEONATAL SCREENING AND LEAD LEVEL TESTING IN CHILDREN

On September 2, 2005, the Department of Health gave notice of its intent to amend Chapters 22 and 73 of Title 22. The amendments rename the chapters, “Neonatal Screening Services,” and “Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention,” respectively. Among the amendments are requirements to add new metabolic disorders to the list of disorders for which newborns are tested and to establish indigency and residency standards for parents to qualify for benefits to receive metabolic disorder testing.

The amendments to Chapter 73 conform the D.C. Regulations to national guidelines regard lead levels and testing, including those issued by the Center for Disease Control. The amendments provide the minimum standards for blood level screenings. The standards are meant to complement, and not replace, the provisions in the Student Health Care Act of 1985, which address lead level testing.

These amendments are likely to become effective in mid October 2005.

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