



Genomics & Newborn Screening Newsletter

June 2022

Spotlight

Thank you!

The GNBS program visited IU Health Bloomington in May to congratulate the OB, NICU and laboratory staff for their excellence in newborn screening. The IU Health Bloomington team walked the GNBS staff through their newborn screening processes and shared their tips for ensuring timely and good quality newborn screening for every infant.

The GNBS program thanks you for your continued service to our Hoosier newborns and their families!

Want to know how your facility ranks?

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)



Sending our thanks to the IU Health Bloomington Mother/Baby, NICU, Lab and their teams!

Updates

Newborn Screening Program Manual

We have launched an updated [Newborn Screening Program Manual](#)! This new resource replaces the previous GNBS Tool Kit version 4. The purpose of this resource is to serve as a reference for professionals who have a role in Indiana's state-mandated Newborn Screening programs and its best practices and procedures.

You're Invited!

The Newborn Screening team will be hosting a live webinar to walk through the updated [Newborn Screening Program Manual](#) and answer any questions you may have.

We hope you can join us!

When: Tuesday, June 7 1:00-2:30 p.m. EDT

Where: Join virtually by using the link sent after you register.

How: [Click this link to register](#) and a link will be sent to the email you provide!

The Indiana Folic Acid Awareness Campaign

The Indiana Birth Defects and Problems Registry (IBDPR) is excited to launch a statewide initiative to increase folic acid awareness and knowledge among Hoosiers! The Indiana Folic Acid Awareness Campaign (INFAAC) seeks to not only increase folic acid knowledge, but also reduce the number of babies born with neural tube defects within Indiana. The IBDPR will be partnering with community leaders and healthcare systems, clinics and providers to increase folic acid education throughout the state. The IBDPR will be hosting webinars in June 2022, so be on the lookout for additional information. To learn more about birth defects, please visit www.birthdefects.in.gov.

Meet Heather!



Heather has been a member of our team for 5 years as a birth defects chart abstractor. In addition to this role, she provides support to the Division of Fatality Review and Prevention and collaborates on various GNBS projects. She is a member of the National Birth Defects Prevention Network and attends conferences and symposiums each year to strengthen her knowledge of birth defects. Heather received a BS in public health from Indiana University Bloomington and has been a certified clinical medical assistant for 8 years. In her free time, Heather enjoys working in her flower garden and spending time with her friends, family and pets.

Health Awareness

June is Cytomegalovirus (CMV) Awareness Month!

CMV is the most common infectious cause of birth defects in the U.S. Most people infected with CMV do not experience symptoms, but if a pregnant individual is infected with CMV, it can be passed onto the developing baby. In that case, it is called congenital CMV. About 1 in 5 infants with congenital CMV infection will have birth defects or other health problems such as hearing loss, intellectual disability, vision loss, seizures and a lack of coordination or weakness. Babies with congenital CMV may have a small head size; seizures; rash; and liver, spleen and lung problems.

- To reduce risk of congenital CMV, pregnant individuals should:
- Avoid contact with infant's and young children's saliva and urine.
 - Avoid sharing food, utensils or cups with a child.
 - Wash hands after changing diapers.

Learn more about National CMV Awareness Month.

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)



To **promote**, **protect**, and **improve** the health and safety of all Hoosiers