



Newborn Bloodspot Screening Wales

Welcome to the Newborn Bloodspot Screening Wales (NBSW) newsletter. This provides information and updates on the NBSW Programme.

November 2020

Issue 20

Message from Ruth Lawler, Head of Maternal and Child Screening

*"The Covid-19 pandemic has had a major impact on health care services in 2020 and has certainly presented your services and staff working within them huge challenges. For newborn bloodspot screening you have risen to those challenges. Staff have worked extremely hard under unprecedented conditions to ensure that all eligible babies have had timely good quality bloodspot samples taken. This improvement has been reflected in the All Wales avoidable repeat rate, which has been below the standard of 2% for the majority of the last six months. This is a credit to you all and I would like to say a huge **THANK YOU** to everyone involved in taking newborn bloodspot screening samples. As we move into the second wave of the pandemic it is equally important that you continue with this improvement and be vigilant in completing the bloodspot card and taking timely good quality samples.*

Thank you once again for all your hard work and dedication in ensuring that timely good quality bloodspot samples are taken for all eligible babies".

Included in this issue

- ✓ NBSW website
- ✓ Sample taker reports
- ✓ Clinical referral pathways
- ✓ Training films
- ✓ Parent information



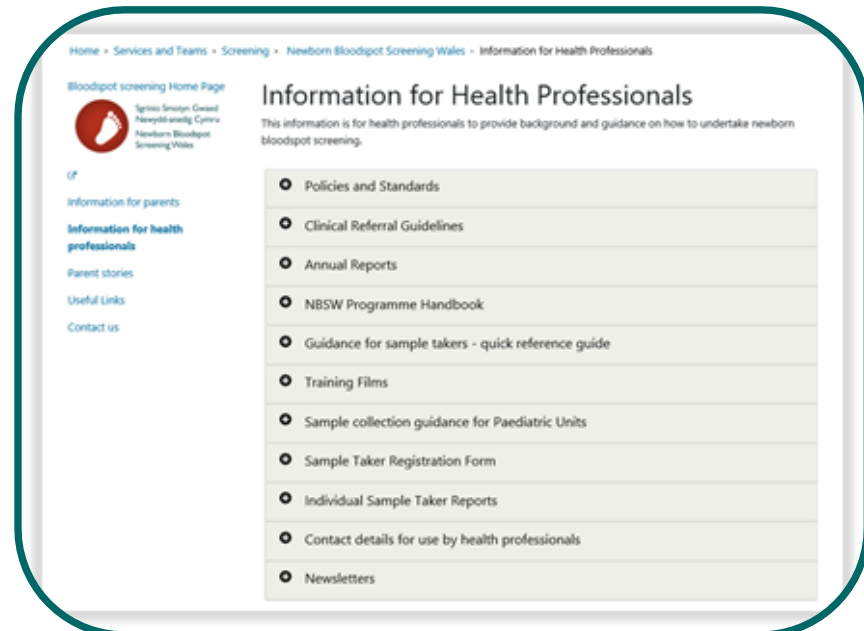
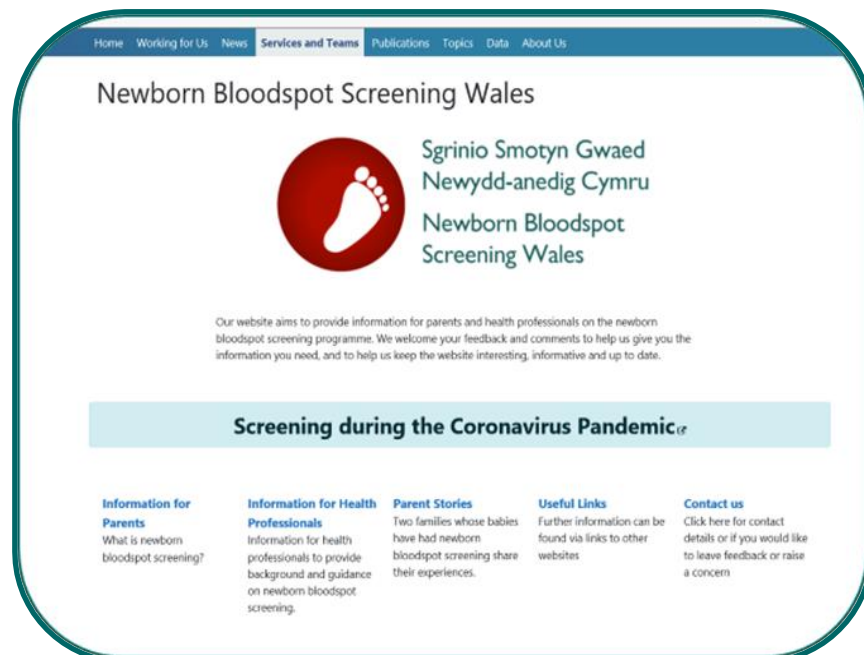
Contact Us: We hope you find this newsletter useful. If you have any questions about the NBSW programme or any of the resources, or would like to be added to our circulation list, please contact us at nbsw@wales.nhs.uk. Telephone: 029 2010 4427.



NBSW Website Redesign

We are pleased to announce that the new look [NBSW website](#) has gone live. It has been redesigned with a fresh new layout which enables easy access to information for parents and health professionals.

The resources for health professionals include the programme handbook, clinical referral guidelines and the training films.



NBSW Website

This new website also allows easy access to other Public Health Wales services and teams.



Individual performance reports – positive feedback from sample takers

Registered sample takers in Wales are able to access their own [NBS performance reports](#) via the NBSW website. The feedback we have received from sample takers who have accessed their reports has been positive.

These reports, generated every three months, show the number of samples taken each month, the number of avoidable repeats and a breakdown of the reasons for any repeat samples. Each report provides performance over 12 months and so can be very useful for discussion at the personal development annual reviews.

To receive the reports, sample takers will need to be registered on the NBSW sample taker database and ensure that their name and sample taker ID code are legibly recorded on the bloodspot cards.

Sample taker registration

To register, please complete the [NBSW sample taker registration form](#) which can be accessed via the NBSW website.

If already registered, please let us know if any of your details, including your health board, have changed since you completed your sample taker registration form.

Please [contact us](#) if you have any questions about registration.





Clinical referral guidelines updated

All the [clinical referral guidelines](#) have recently been reviewed and updated. They can be accessed via the NBSW website.

Training films updated


Following feedback from sample takers a review of the two training films '[Newborn bloodspot screening - the laboratory processes](#)' and '[Newborn bloodspot screening in neonatal units](#)' was undertaken. These films have been condensed and are now shorter in length. We hope this makes them more user friendly. Both films can now be accessed via the NBSW website in English and Welsh language.

The laboratory processes film (approximately 5 minutes long) focuses on the process of testing newborn bloodspot screening samples once they are received in the Wales Newborn Screening Laboratory. It also highlights the importance of collecting good quality bloodspots and ensuring that documentation on the cards is complete and accurate.

The second film (approximately 9 minutes long) looks at aspects of newborn bloodspot screening for babies who are being cared for in neonatal units and the additional requirements needed for screening these babies. It also shows what is required to collect a good quality sample.

Home > Services and Teams > Screening > Newborn Bloodspot Screening Wales > Information for Health Professionals

Bloodspot screening Home Page

 Sgrinio Smotyn Gwaed
Newydd-anedig Cymru
Newborn Bloodspot
Screening Wales

Information for parents

Information for health professionals

Parent stories

Useful Links

Contact us

Information for Health Professionals

This information is for health professionals to provide background and guidance on how to undertake newborn bloodspot screening.

Training Films

Film 1
The film 'Newborn bloodspot screening - the laboratory processes' has been produced for sample takers in Wales.

This film (approximately 5 minutes long) has been updated. It focuses on the process of testing newborn bloodspot screening samples once they are received in the Wales Newborn Screening Laboratory. It also highlights the importance of collecting good quality bloodspots and ensuring that documentation on the cards is complete and accurate.

To view the film please use the link: [Newborn bloodspot screening - the laboratory process](#)

Film 2
The film 'Newborn bloodspot screening in neonatal units' has been produced for sample takers working in neonatal units in Wales.

Individual Sample Taker Reports



New parent information leaflets

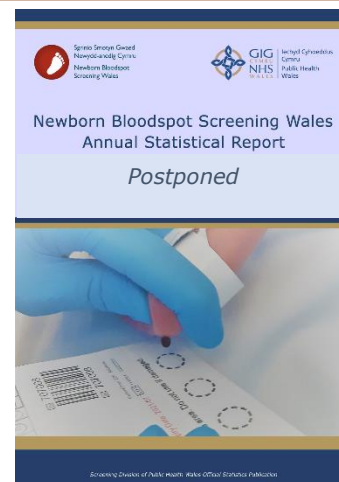
New leaflets for parents of babies in Wales with a condition suspected newborn bloodspot screening result have been developed following a review of the information available. There is now one leaflet for each of the nine conditions and these will be available on the NBSW website from early December 2020.

These [leaflets](#) provide information for the parents about the condition and what they can expect following the suspected screening result.

We would like to thank Public Health England for sharing their parent information leaflets so that we could adapt them for use in Wales.

Annual Statistical report

The NBSW annual statistical report for 2019-2020 has been postponed. The health protection response to the pandemic remains the first priority of Public Health Wales at this time.



Events

NBSW Annual Conference

Due to the covid-19 restrictions the fifth annual NBSW conference will not be taking place this November. We look forward to you attending our next conference.

RCM Annual Conference

The Maternal and Child Screening programmes had the opportunity to 'virtually' exhibit at this year's RCM conference held on 6th-9th October. Our virtual stand included resources from the antenatal, newborn bloodspot and newborn hearing screening programmes. We were pleased to see that just under 500 people visited the stand.