State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services

TOBY DOUGLAS
DIRECTOR

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

May 19, 2011

To: CCS-Approved Outpatient Infant Hearing Screening Providers

Re: California Newborn Hearing Screening Program Outpatient Infant Hearing Screening Provider Standards Update

This letter is to alert you to a change in the Outpatient Infant Hearing Screening Provider Standards (standards). The California Newborn Hearing Screening Program (NHSP) has updated our procedures to better reflect the recommendations of the Joint Committee on Infant Hearing **restricting otoacoustic emission (OAE) screening following a refer result on auditory brainstem response (ABR) screening.** The specific change has been bolded and can be found in the Facility and Equipment section (page 3) of the standards. Effective immediately, Outpatient Infant Hearing Screening Providers who do not have ABR equipment available shall not accept patients who require outpatient screening following a refer result on ABR.

The updated standards can be found on our website at www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/nhsp under the Standards link on the Provider menu located on the right hand side of the screen. If you have any questions about this change or the NHSP you may contact Hallie Morrow, M.D., Program Medical Consultant at 916-323-8009.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By Robert J. Dimand, M.D.

Robert J. Dimand, M.D.
Chief Medical Officer
Children's Medical Services