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October 28, 2015

Dear Illinois Birthing Hospitals:

Public Act 099-0424, the Cytomegalovirus Public Education Act, was signed into law August 21, 2015. The complete citation for this Act can be found at the following address:

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/fulltext.asp?DocName=&SessionId=88&GA=99&DocTypeId=HB&DocNum=0184&GAID=13&LegID=83772&SpecSess=&Session=>

Sec. 2310-685 of this legislation requires birthing facilities to provide cytomegalovirus (CMV) educational materials and newborn testing options to parents, as stated below:

“(f) If a newborn infant fails the 2 initial hearing screenings in the hospital, then the hospital performing that screening shall provide to the parents of the newborn infant information regarding:

- (i) birth defects caused by congenital CMV;
- (ii) testing opportunities and options for CMV, including the opportunity to test for CMV before leaving the hospital; and
- (iii) early intervention services.

Health care providers may use the materials developed by the Department for distribution to parents of newborn infants.”

The Illinois Department of Public Health, in collaboration with the University of Illinois at Chicago Division of Specialized Care for Children, included information required by the Act in the brochure, “Next Steps for Newborn Hearing Screening Follow-up”. This brochure is available in multiple languages, at no charge. To view the brochure and the order form please visit: [www.illinoisoundbeginnings.org](http://www.illinoisoundbeginnings.org).

The Department will continue to identify materials containing information relevant to parents and health care providers to meet the need for CMV education for families of newborns. These materials will be posted on the Department’s website <http://dph.illinois.gov/> in the near future. Hospitals are expected to assure parents have information about CMV as required by the Act. Additional reference information related to CMV may be found at the following sites:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov/cmvr/references-resources.html>

American Academy of Family Physicians: <http://www.aafp.org/afp/2003/0201/p526.html>

Congenital Cytomegalovirus Foundation: <http://www.congenitalcmv.org/public.htm>

Questions may be addressed to Ginger Mullin, Au.D., Program Manager, Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program at [ginger.mullin@illinois.gov](mailto:ginger.mullin@illinois.gov) or by calling 217-782-4733.

Sincerely,

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Illinois Department of Public Health