

# Building and Enhancing Laboratory Capacity for Screening and Diagnosis of Hemoglobinopathies

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#### Reasons

- Millions are affected globally
- i.e. Sickle Cell Disease
  - 1/500 African Americans
  - 1/36000 Hispanic Americans
  - 1/12 African American born with SCT
  - SCD incidence higher in certain areas
    - Liberia 10.31% SCT & 1.19% SCD
    - Uganda prevalence study
      - 13.3% SCT & 0.7% Disease
      - prevalence of SCT > 20%
      - Other Hb variants at 26%

- Many published articles on Hemoglobinopathies Screening and Diagnosis
- Lack of a comprehensive reference





#### **White Paper**

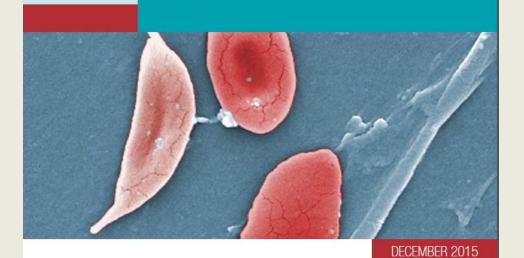
#### 56 page document

- Executive Summary
- Acknowledgements
- Introduction
- History of Screening
- Methods
- Advantages, Limitations & Testing Strategy
- Algorithms
- QA
- Follow-up
- References
- Appendices

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#### **Hemoglobinopathies:**

Current Practices for Screening, Confirmation and Follow-up









### How It Began

#### Workgroup



#### **Joint Effort**

- 6 States Public Health Labs
  - WA, TX, TN, NV, NJ, & FL
- 1 Diagnostic lab Meharry
- APHL
- CDC
  - National Center on Birth
     Defects and Developmental
     Disabilities
  - National Center for Environmental Health



#### I. Executive Summary

- States Workgroup Objectives:
  - Discuss issues related to lab capacity
  - Conduct inventory of labs with capacity for SCD testing
  - Develop a training program for implementing lab technology
  - Evaluate current lab methods and make recommendations for improvement
  - Identify and document best practices



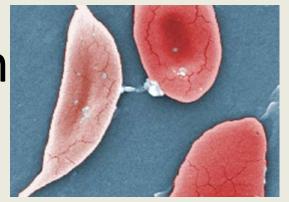
### II. Acknowledgements

- Maria del Pilar Aguinaga MMC, Tennessee
- Ming Chan, Florida DOH
- Tim Davis, Washington DOH
- Christine Dorley Tennessee DOH
- Jojo Dy Nevada DOH
- Marie Earley CDC
- Althea Grant CDC
- Mary Hulihan CDC
- Suzanne Karabin New Jersey DOH
- Joanne Mei CDC
- Christine Moore Texas DOH
- Laxmi Nayak New Jersey DOH
- Kwaku Ohene-Frempong CHOP, Pennsylvania



#### III. Introduction

- Discusses Hemoglobin structure
  - Normal Hb
  - Quantitative changes to Hemoglobin
    - Thalassemias i.e. αthal
    - One gene deletion vs. four gene deletions
  - Qualitative changes to Hemoglobin
    - Beta globin variants i.e. Hb S, C, D, E, and G
  - Severity of disease can vary from insignificant to life threatening
  - Highlights differences in methods and screening programs





### IV. History

 Historical perspective beginning in the 1970s up to present day with addition to the RUSP

•Screening through hematology & Clinical manifestations 1960s • Feds allocate funding for some SCC • Public law 92-294 •12 state labs have targeted screening •NY universal screening for SCD •NIH consensus statement recommends Universal 1970s thru screening 1990s Penicillin shown to reduce mortality •Funding to support screening and education •Over 40 states have universal screening RUSP •Universal screening for all states + DC 2006 to Now



## V. Specimen Types

Satisfactory specimens



Unacceptable samples and transfusion









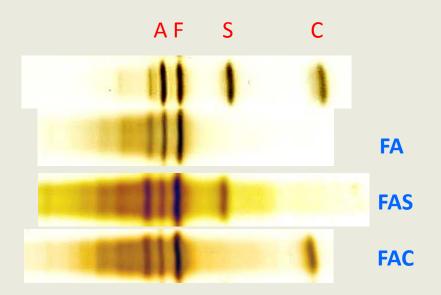
#### VI. Methods

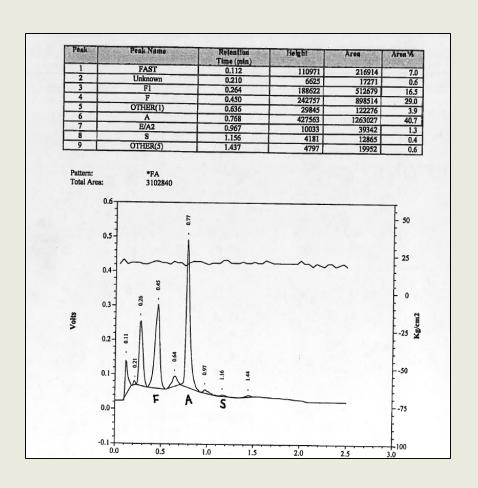
- Isoelectric focusing
- High Performance Liquid Chromatography
- Cellulose Acetate Electrophoresis
- Citrate Agar Electrophoresis
- Alkaline Globin Chain Electrophoresis
- Capillary Electrophoresis
- Molecular Methods



## VII. Advantages, Limitations, and Testing Strategy

- Advantages
- Limitations



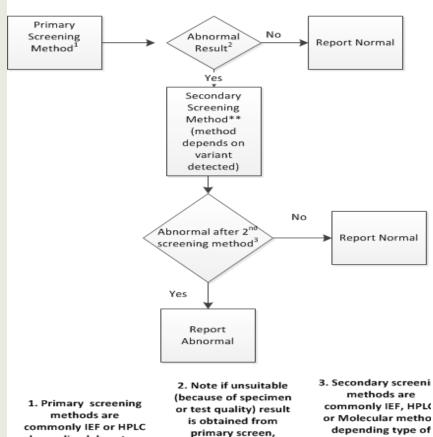




## VIII. Algorithms

#### **Typical Screening Algorithm**

#### **Confirmatory Algorithm HbS**



primary screen

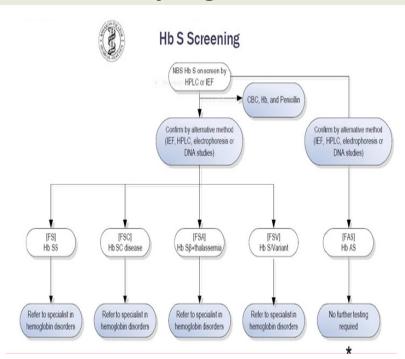
method is usually

repeated before

moving to next step

depending laboratory

depending type of variant detected by primary screening method and laboratory



Abbreviations/ Key: F, S, A, C, and V = The hemoglobins seen in neonatal screening, HPLC: High performance liquid chromatography; IEF: Isoelectric focusing; ‡ = Repeat testing at 6 months age is required if genotyping to confirm the newborn screening result is not done.

Source: Adapted from American College of Medical Genetics, 2009 and Dr. Aguinaga-NBS for Hemoglobinopathies in TN, from the 11th Annual Research Symposium in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Meharry Medical College-Nashville, TN. 2014.



## IX. Quality Assurance

- Pre-analytical
- Analytical
- Post-analytical

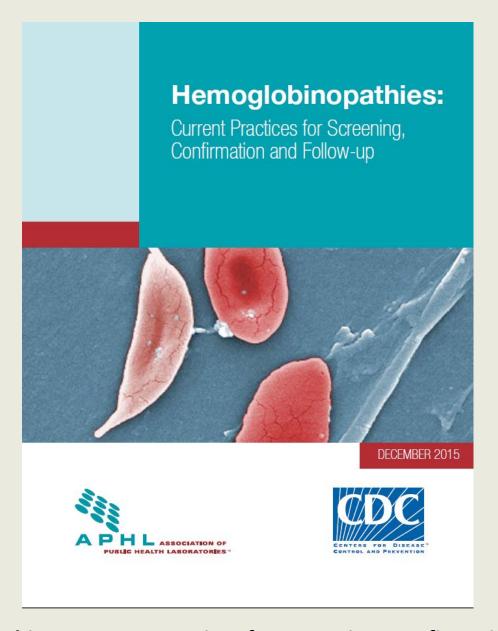




## X. Follow-up

- Short-term follow-up
- Relationship of lab and follow-up staff
- Training of follow-up staff
- Process algorithms for disease versus trait
- Follow-up activities for adult screening





Hemoglobinopathies: Current Practices for Screening, Confirmation and Follow-up

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## Acknowledgements Again

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- Kwaku Ohene-Frempong CHOP, Pennsylvania
- Plus APHL (Jelili, Careema, Guisou)

#### References

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Tubman VN, Marshall R, Jallah W, Guo D, Ma C, Ohene-Frempong K, London WB, Heeney MM. (2016). Newborn screening for Sickle Cell Disease in Liberia: A pilot study. Pediatric Blood Cancer. doi: 10.1002/pbc.25875.

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