

Expansion of the Newborn Screening Program A Family Story about Cystic Fibrosis



Born in Oklahoma, Baby Moomey will be screened for four disorders, but will have to have another heelstick to screen for cystic fibrosis, a disorder Oklahoma does not include in the screening panel that is required for all newborns. His sister, Victoria, was diagnosed two months before her third birthday with cystic fibrosis (CF). Without newborn screening the diagnosis of CF can be delayed a few months to years. Due to CF, Victoria was severely malnourished and failing to thrive. Unfortunately, because of the delayed diagnosis, the Moomey family was reported for neglect. If Oklahoma screened for CF, Victoria could have been identified at birth, and the malnutrition could have been avoided. Currently nine states screen all newborns for CF. The Oklahoma Genetics Advisory Council recommended CF be considered for addition to the current screening panel.