

APHL Newborn Screening Symposium



2026

New Orleans

October 11–15, 2026 • New Orleans, LA

Preliminary Program



Sponsored by the
Association of Public Health Laboratories

Co-Sponsored by the
Louisiana Department of Health and the
International Society for Neonatal Screening

[aphl.org / NBSS2026](https://aphl.org/NBSS2026)

#APHLNBS

About the Symposium

The APHL Newborn Screening Symposium is an annual international gathering of public health professionals that includes educational sessions, posters and exhibits featuring the latest in laboratory technology and newborn screening systems practice.

The symposium addresses state, national and international newborn screening, genetic testing and policy issues important to public health newborn screening systems. Topics include molecular technologies, current and upcoming conditions, quality improvement, communicating with families and the public, and short- and long-term follow-up.

Participants enhance their knowledge of national and international newborn screening and genetics as related to emerging laboratory technologies, follow-up, candidate conditions, quality improvement and clinical outcomes.



HIGHLIGHTS

20+ Scientific Sessions and 100+ Posters

Learn about new technology, trends and issues regarding a variety of topics in newborn screening and genetics.

Networking

Reconnect with old friends and meet new ones! Get inspired by your peers. Renew excitement about your science, your work, your mission and public health.

Continuing Education Credits

Earn P.A.C.E.[®], CME, CNE, CHES and Genetic Counselor credits.

This activity has been submitted to the American Public Health Association and the National Society for Genetic Counselors for approval to award contact hours.

30+ Exhibitors

Discover new products and services, and speak directly with industry partners and company reps.

Lived Experiences Panel

Hear compelling personal accounts of how newborn screening impacts the lives of patients and families. Follow their journeys from screening and diagnosis to treatment and management.

APHL Newborn Screening Awards

Recognize your colleagues for their amazing accomplishments during the Newborn Screening Awards event.

Fun and Engaging Activities

Unwind with your newborn screening friends at events such as the welcome reception, Ignite session and the Revvity off-site social.



Registration

Online registration is now open. The in-person early rate of \$750 is valid through September 18. Details are on the Symposium website aphl.org/NBSS2026.

Registration Fees:

Full Conference (early: through September 18)	\$750
Full Conference (late: after September 18)	\$800
Student*	\$200
Fellow*	\$550
One Day	\$400

* A student (current ID required) pays the registration fee out of pocket without reimbursement.

A fellow receives a stipend to pay the registration fee.

If you are a parent/family or patient advocacy group, please contact dara.slavin@aphl.org.

Major Learning Goals of the Symposium

- Discuss and evaluate quality assurance and quality control measures for newborn screening laboratories
- Evaluate the effectiveness of current newborn screening and genetics follow-up programs
- Describe state and international experiences with candidate conditions and clinical outcomes in newborn screening

Location

Hyatt Regency New Orleans

601 Loyola Ave, New Orleans, LA 70113

Hotel

The 2026 APHL Newborn Screening Symposium headquarters hotel is the **Hyatt Regency New Orleans**. It is within easy walking distance of restaurants and shops.

Who will Benefit From Attending This Conference?

- Newborn screening and genetics laboratory professionals
- Newborn screening and genetics program personnel and counselors
- Students, health care practitioners or other maternal and child health service providers
- Public health nurses, specialists, public health laboratory directors, and other public health professionals involved with newborn screening and genetic testing issues and follow-up
- Parents, families, patients and advocacy groups involved in newborn screening

EXHIBITORS

as of August 10

Agena Bioscience

ALD Alliance/Newborn Screening Alliance

Association of Public Health Laboratories (Career Pathways)

Astoria-Pacific

BioPerfectus Technologies Inc.

Bio-Rad Laboratories

BSD Robotics

Diasorin

EBF, LLC

Enfanos, LLC

HCU Network America

iConnect Consulting

LabVantage Solutions, Inc.

LACAR MDx Technologies

Mirum Pharmaceuticals

Natus Sensory

Newborn Screening Collaborative

NOVARTIS

OpenELIS Foundation

Orchard Therapeutics

Primary.Health

Quantabio

Revvity

RTI International

Ruvos

Sebia

STAT Courier Service, Inc.

Sumitomo Pharma America

Thermo Fisher Scientific

Watchmaker Genomics

Waters Advanced Diagnostics

Preliminary Agenda of Events

Central Standard Time

This schedule is subject to change.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm | Registration Open

3:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Welcome Address

Presenters:

- Scott Becker, MS, Association of Public Health Laboratories
- Jelili Ojodu, MPH, Association of Public Health Laboratories
- Alyson Saadi, MNS, MB(ASCP), Louisiana Department of Health

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Newborn Screening Stories and Treatment Journeys: Perspectives from Individuals with Lived Experiences

Moderators:

Twaina Williams, Family Advocate
Marbely Barahona, Louisiana Department of Health

Speakers:

Chadd Williams
Shelby Touns
Daniel Cressy

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Welcome Reception



MONDAY, OCTOBER 12

7:30 am – 4:00 pm | Registration Open

7:30 am – 4:00 pm | Exhibit and Poster Hall Open

7:30 am – 9:00 am | Coffee

8:00 am – 9:30 am

New Frontiers in Newborn Screening

Moderators:

Denise Kay, PhD, New York State Department of Health
Emily Reeves, BSN, RN, CMP, Florida Newborn Screening Follow-up Program

- **First-tier Newborn Screening of Over 70 Biomarkers by 2-min LC-MS/MS**
Samantha Isenberg, PhD, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- **Universal Newborn Screening for Metachromatic Leukodystrophy in New York State**
Jing Xiao, PhD, FACMG, New York State Department of Health
- **Early Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Screening Experience in Massachusetts**
Jaime Hale, MS, New England Newborn Screening Program

- **When the Follow-up List is Long but the Diagnosis List Isn't: Minnesota's Experience Screening for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy**
Sondra Rosendahl, MS, LCGC, Minnesota Department of Health

- **Critical Congenital Heart Disease Screening Outcomes in Michigan Using Linked Newborn Screening and Birth Defects Registry Data**
Amy Rakowski, MS, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

9:30 am – 10:00 am | Coffee in Exhibit and Poster Hall

10:00 am – 10:30 am

Rapid Posters Session | *Schedule to be announced*

10:30 am – 11:45 am

Welcome from the Louisiana Department of Health

Tonya Joiner, Assistant Secretary, Office of Public Health

Keynote Session

Moderator:

Susan Tanksley, PhD, Texas Department of State Health Services

Speaker:

Hans C. Andersson, MD, FACMG, Director, Hayward Genetics Center, Tulane University Medical Center

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12

11:45 am – 2:00 pm | Lunch (on your own)

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Refreshments in Exhibit and Poster Hall

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Digital Poster Session #1 | *Schedule to be announced*

3:00 pm – 3:45 pm

CONCURRENT INNOVATE SESSIONS

To be announced

3:45 pm – 4:00 pm

Break — Visit the exhibitors and posters



4:15 pm – 5:15 pm

Ignite the Night! | *Presenters to be announced*

5:15 pm – 5:30 pm | Break

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Newborn Screening Laboratory Social Hour

The Carol Johnson Follow-up and Family Social Hour

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13

7:30 am – 5:00 pm | Registration Open

7:30 am – 3:15 pm | Exhibit and Poster Hall Open

7:30 am – 9:00 am | Coffee

8:00 am – 9:00 am

CONCURRENT ROUNDTABLES

- **MLD as a Case Study in the Future of Newborn Screening Expansion: Policy, Coordination and Implementation Challenges**
Amy Gaviglio, MS, CGC, Connetics Consulting/APHL/CDC
- **Assessing Family Outcomes After Newborn Screening: Results From a Pilot Test of a New Measure**
Melissa Raspa, PhD, RTI International
- **From False Negatives to Better Detection: A National Roadmap for Improving HCU Screening**
Shawn Moloney, MPH, MLS(ASCP), Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Kostas Petritis, PhD, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

9:00 am – 9:30 am | Coffee in Exhibit and Poster Hall

9:30 am – 11:00 am

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Molecular Technology in Newborn Screening: From Genetics to Reactomics

Moderators:

George Dizikes, PhD, HCLD/CC(ABB), Laboratory Quality Assurance, LLC
Michele Caggana, ScD, FACMG, New York State Department of Health, retired

- **Design and Assessment of a Targeted Gene Sequencing Panel for Newborn Screening**
Travis Henry, PhD, Association of Public Health Laboratories
- **Cystic Fibrosis Genotyping Panels — Expanding Diversity**
Denise Kay, PhD, New York State Department of Health
- **Multiplex Enzymatic Profiling from Dried Blood Spot: Validation of a Scalable Reactomics Platform**
Raquel Yahyaoui, MD, PhD, Malaga Regional University Hospital
- **Mutational Analysis of HBA1, HBA2 and HBB in Hemoglobinopathy Screened-positive Neonates Using digitalMLPA EZtec in the Philippines**
Terence Diane Fabella, MsC, University Medical Center
- **MLPA for Second-tier Detection of Duchene Muscular Dystrophy Deletions and Duplications Following CK-MM Newborn Screening**
Binod Kumar, PhD, UMASS Chan Medical School



Enhancing Short-term Follow-up Workflows in Newborn Screening

Moderators:

Breonna Preston, MPH, CHES, California Newborn Screening Program

Virginia Sack, MS, CGC, New York State Department of Health

- **One Baby, One System: Strengthening Newborn Screening Through DBS and EHDl Collaboration**
Fran Altmaier, Arizona Department of Health Services
- **Addressing Uncertainty in Newborn Screening Follow-up for Mucopolysaccharidosis I and II Through Risk-stratified Clinical Frameworks and Disease Monitoring Guidelines**
Kristin Clinard, MS, CGC, Muenzer MPS Center, UNC Chapel Hill
- **From Detection to Intervention: Developing Efficient Follow-up Workflows in Newborn Screening**
Fran Altmaier, Arizona Department of Health Services
- **What Turnover Revealed About Our Follow-up System: Lessons from Restructuring Newborn Screening Operations**
Drew Duncan, MA, Kansas Department of Health and Environment



11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Digital Poster Session #2 | *Schedule to be announced*

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Lunch provided in the Exhibit Hall —
Visit exhibitors and posters

12:00 pm – 12:30 pm

CONCURRENT INNOVATE SESSIONS

To be announced

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm

CONCURRENT INNOVATE SESSIONS

To be announced

1:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Break — Visit the exhibitors and posters

2:00 pm – 2:45 pm

CONCURRENT INNOVATE SESSIONS

To be announced

2:45 pm – 3:15 pm

Refreshments in the Exhibit and Poster Hall

3:15 pm – 4:45 pm

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Quality Improvement, Control and Assurance Activities in Newborn Screening

Moderators:

Jasmine Paul, MHS, MLS(ASCP), Louisiana Department of Health

Kathy Chou, PhD, New York State Department of Health

- **Proficiency Testing and Quality Control Programs for Gene Sequencing in Newborn Screening: A CDC Pilot for Pompe, X-ALD, MPSI, MPSII and Krabbe Disease**
Christopher Greene, PhD, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- **Implementing Newborn Screening for Metachromatic Leukodystrophy as a Unified Front: Ensuring Harmonization from the Start**
Catherine Balnis, PhD, New York State Department of Health
- **Pseudodeficiency: What It Is, What It Isn't and Why It Matters**
Amy Gaviglio, MS, CGC, Connetics Consulting/APHL/CDC
Patricia Hall, PhD, Mayo Clinic

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13

- **Michigan's Experience with the Neobase Non-derivatized MSMS Kit (NB2) Using SCIEX Triple Quad 4500 MD System: Lessons Learned and Future Directions**
Heather Wood, MS, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- **Evaluating Guanidinoacetate and the Amino Acids Profiles to Improve Specificity and Algorithms for Guanidinoacetate Methyl Transferase Deficiency**
Inderneel Sahai, MD, New England Newborn Screening Program

Supporting Patients and Families Beyond Diagnosis: Long-term Care with Lasting Impact

Moderators:

- Marianna Raia, MS, CGC, Expecting Health
- Amanda Ingram, RN, Tennessee Department of Health
- **Beyond Diagnosis: Establishing Long-term Follow-up in Washington State**
Anna Howard, MPH, Washington State Department of Health

- **A Model for Determining Disorder-specific Data Elements for Long-term Follow-up**
Jennifer Smith, MSN, RN, CNL, Tennessee Department of Health
- **From Screening to Staying Seen: Transforming Long-term Follow-up in Colorado and Wyoming**
Lauren Barringer, DPT, MPH, University of Colorado, Denver, Center for Public Health Innovation
- **Long-term Follow-up of Asymptomatic Congenital Cytomegalovirus (cCMV) Newborn Screen Positive Babies**
Virginia Sack, MS, CGC, New York State Department of Health
- **Long-term Follow-up Pilot Program in North Carolina**
Caitlyn Kandel, MS, MPH, CGC, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

4:45 pm – 5:00 pm | Break

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm | Town Hall

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

7:30 am – 4:00 pm | Registration Open

7:30 am – 4:00 pm | Exhibit and Poster Hall Open

7:30 am – 9:00 am | Coffee

8:00 am – 9:00 am

CONCURRENT ROUNDTABLES

- **Quality Improvement Strategies to Combat a Rise in Unsatisfactory Specimens**
Kathy Chou, PhD, New York State Department of Health
Holly Winslow, Minnesota Department of Health
Michelle Mills, MS, CLSSBB, Kansas Department of Health and Environment
- **Advancing Long-term Follow-up in Newborn Screening: Evaluation of Process Measures and National Implementation Strategies**
Noah Sinangil, Association of Public Health Laboratories
- **Building Effective Family Advisory Groups in Newborn Screening Programs: A Roundtable for Action and Implementation**
Marianna Raia, MS, CGC, Expecting Health

9:00 am – 9:30 am

Coffee in the Exhibit and Poster Hall



9:30 am – 11:00 am

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

The Future of Newborn Screening: Integrating Modern Technology Systems to Streamline Innovation

Moderators:

- Cheryl Harris, MSW, MPH, Louisiana Department of Health
- Ewa King, PhD, Association of Public Health Laboratories
- **CDC ED3N Update: Building a Nationally Representative Platform for Data-driven Newborn Screening**
Amy Gaviglio, MS, CGC, Connetics Consulting/APHL/CDC

- **Implementation of Standardized Electronic Ordering Interfaces for Newborn Screening: Efficiency Gains and Lessons Learned**
Sierra Daniels, University of Iowa State Hygienic Laboratory
- **Advancing Newborn Screening Modernization Through a Scalable ETOR Platform and HIE-Enabled Interoperability in Arkansas**
Jacqueline Reams, Arkansas Department of Health
- **OpenELIS Newborn Screening Case Management: Building and Improving a Follow-up System Through Collaboration and Innovation**
Alankar Kampooale, MPH, MCS, University of Iowa
- **Integrating Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR) Queries to Streamline Follow-up**
John Thompson, PhD, MPH, MPA, Washington State Department of Health

Expanding the Horizon of Whole Genome Sequencing: Part One

Moderators:

- Shawn Moloney, MPH, MLS(ASCP)cm, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- George Dizikes, PhD, HCLD/CC(ABB), Laboratory Quality Assurance, LLC
- **Implementation Considerations for Genomic Newborn Screening: Perspectives from US Newborn Screening Professionals**
Natalie Zaba, MS, University of Connecticut
- **Insights of Parental Attitudes of Neonatal Whole Genome Sequencing Through Differing Frameworks and Potential Impacts on Public Health Programs**
Chloe Maffei, MSGC, Case Western Reserve University
- **The GUARDIAN Expanded Genomic Newborn Screening Study: Pitfalls and Promises to Enhance Conditions Currently Screened**
Brenna Boyd, MS, CGC, Columbia University Irving Medical Center
- **Genomic Newborn Screening for Hearing Loss in Sunshine Genetics**
Saanchi Shah, PhD, LCGC, MS, MPH, Florida Institute for Pediatric Rare Diseases, FSU College of Medicine

11:00 pm – 12:30 pm

Lunch provided in the Exhibit Hall — Visit the exhibitors and posters

Visit the Bark Park in the Exhibit Hall to meet some furry friends!



12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

CONCURRENT ROUNDTABLES

- **Bridging Borders: Advancing Newborn Screening Through Cross-state Collaboration**
Fran Altmaier, Arizona Department of Health Services
- **Strengthening the Backbone: Upskilling Local Newborn Screening Advisory Committees in an Era of Federal Uncertainty**
Amy Gaviglio, MS, CGC, Connetics Consulting/APHL/CDC
Natasha Bonhomme, Expecting Health
Aaron Goldenberg, MS, MPH, Case Western Reserve University
- **Difficult Hemoglobinopathy Newborn Screening Cases, Screening Platform Preferences and Evaluations from the First Association of Public Health Laboratories/ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Joint Workshop**
M. A. Bender, MD, PhD, University of Washington, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Tim Davis, Washington State Department of Health

1:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Break — Visit the exhibitors and posters

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Building Partnerships and Strengthening Engagement Throughout the Newborn Screening Continuum

Moderators:

- Dana Hubbard, MEd, Louisiana Department of Health
- Breonna Preston, MPH, CHES, California Newborn Screening Program

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

- **Current Practices and Future Possibilities: A National Mapping Study on Newborn Screening Results Disclosure**
Amy Gaviglio, MS, CGC, Connetics Consulting/APHL/CDC
- **Access to Early Intervention Following Standard and Expanded Newborn Screening**
Kate MacDuffie, PhD, MA, Seattle Children's Research Institute
- **From Data to Action: Developing a Standardized Performance Report Card Toolkit to Drive Quality Improvement in Newborn Screening**
Marianna Raia, MS, CGC, Expecting Health
- **Survey of New Parents to Assess and Improve Newborn Screening Educational Materials**
Kayla Dixon, MPH, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- **Beyond the Screening: Building Trust with Families in Nebraska's EHD Program**
Angel Sumpster-McFarland, MPH, Nebraska Early Health Detection and Intervention Program
- **From Checkbox to Cornerstone: Designing High-impact Community Advisory Boards in Genomic Newborn Screening**
Natasha Bonhomme, Expecting Health
- **From Screen Positive to Follow-up Care: Clinical Classification and Outcomes of Infants in the Early Check Genomic Newborn Screening Study**
Melissa Raspa, PhD, RTI International
- **The Unique Demands of Computational Variant Interpretation for Newborn Genomic Screening: Findings from the Critical Assessment of Genome Interpretation (CAGI 7)**
Steven Brenner, PhD, University of California, Berkeley

Expanding the Horizon of Whole Genome Sequencing: Part Two

Moderators:

Ralph Fingerhut, PhD, FAMH, EuSpLM, Synlab MVZ Weiden

Michele Caggana, ScD, FACMG, New York State Department of Health, retired

- **Integration of Whole Genome Sequencing and Untargeted Metabolomics for Newborn Screening: Added Value in Retrospective Dried Blood Spot Analysis**
Jose Manuel Gonzalez de Aledo Castillo, PhD, Hospital Clínic de Barcelona

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Raffle drawing — Visit exhibitors and posters

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

APHL Newborn Screening Awards Ceremony

6:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Off-site Social

Sponsored by Revvity, Inc.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

8:30 am – 12:30 pm | Registration Open

8:30 am – 10:00 am | Coffee

9:00 am – 10:30 am

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

From Notification to Partnership: Advancing Communication in Newborn Screening

Moderators:

Twaina Williams, Family Advocate

Adrienne Savant, MD, Children's Hospital of New Orleans, Tulane University School Medicine

- **Informational Needs of Families After Notification of a Presumptive Positive Newborn Screen: Findings from Iowa's Family Contact Call Initiative**
Georgianne Younger, MS, LGC, University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine
- **Strengthening Newborn Screening Through Integrated Education and Stakeholder Engagement: A Statewide Initiative in North Dakota**
Joyal Meyer, MSN, RN, North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

- **Tennessee Long-term Follow-up: Connecting with Families**
Emma Bradley, MS, CGC, Tennessee Department of Health
- **Towards a Repository of Modular Chatbot Conversations for Communication about Cystic Fibrosis Following a Positive Screen**
Karen Eilbeck, PhD, University of Utah
- **Understanding Family and Clinician Perspectives Toward Cancer Predisposition Screening at Birth**
Natasha Bonhomme, Expecting Health

Newborn Screening System Innovations and Emerging Initiatives

Moderators:

Joseph Orsini, PhD, New York State Department of Health
Susan Tanksley, PhD, Texas Department of State Health Services

- **Newborn Screening at a Crossroads: The Benefits and Challenges of a Fragmenting NBS System**
Aaron Goldenberg, MS, MPH, Case Western Reserve University
- **Re-evaluating Timeliness Standards in Newborn Screening: A Proposed Three-category Framework**
Amy Gaviglio, MS, CGC, Connetics Consulting/APHL/CDC
- **Correlation of Blood Spot Screening Refusals with Other Routine Newborn Interventions: A Case Control Study**
Patricia Hall, PhD, Mayo Clinic
- **Building California's Clinical Genetic Molecular Biology Scientist (CGMBS) Training Pipeline for Newborn Screening**
Rajesh Sharma, PhD, FACMG, California Department of Public Health
- **Exploring Inequities in Newborn Screening Rates Across Oregon**
Patrice Held, PhD, Oregon State Public Health Laboratory

10:30 am – 11:00 am | Break

11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Inside the Engine Room: Implementing Genomic Newborn Sequencing Within Public Health Newborn Screening Programs

Moderators:

Ingrid Holm, MD, MPH, Boston Children's Hospital
Guisou Zarbalian, MS, MPH, Association of Public Health Laboratories

Speakers:

Denise Kay, PhD, New York State Department of Health
Patrice Held, PhD, Oregon State Public Health Laboratory
Sulay Rivera, PhD, Puerto Rico Newborn Screening Program
Kimberly Noble Piper, RN, CPH, CPHG, Iowa Department of Health and Human Services

12:30 pm

Symposium Adjourns

12:45 pm

Lab Tour

More information to be announced

This schedule is a work in progress and is subject to change.

