

Newborn Screening Tip of the Month: Avoid Filter Paper Contamination

- Water, oils from skin, food or beverage nearby or **LOTION** on hands or wrists can all adversely affect NBS results
- **Hand lotion has been proven and published as an interfering substance that can cause false positive Citrulline elevations.** It is listed in the APHL QA/QC Subcommittee's Analyte Interference List. Even though the collector may use gloves when drawing the sample, they sometimes do not when pre-filling in the patient demographic form and can thus contaminate the filter paper with their hands if they have recently used hand lotion.
- Keep flap closed when completing demographics portion
- Treat the filter paper almost as you would a sterile field – when feasible, wear gloves when handling the NBS collection kit



DO NOT TOUCH

NEWBORN
SCREENING 