



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

September 17, 2010

R. Rodney Howell, M.D.
Committee Chairperson
Secretary's Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children
Professor, Department in Newborns and Children
Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine
University of Miami
P.O. Box 016820
Miami, Florida 33101

Dear Dr. Howell:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children's (SACHDNC) recommendation that the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) coordinate newborn screening emergency preparedness activities within HHS's National Response Framework.

I will submit the National Contingency Plan for Newborn Screening (CONPLAN) to the HHS National Disaster Medical Service (NDMS) for their review and consideration. My decision to accept or reject the SACHDNC's recommendation will be forthcoming pending a careful review of the CONPLAN within the context of HHS's National Response Framework.

Please accept my personal thanks to you, and the other members and organizational representatives of the Committee for your efforts on behalf of the newborns and children.

Sincerely,

/ s /

Kathleen Sebelius