

# CDC's Program for Laboratory Quality in Newborn Screening

## *The Role of the Newborn Screening and Molecular Biology Branch*

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# Mandate from Congress: Provide Quality Assurance Materials for NBS Laboratories

## *Provide for:*

- ❑ Quality assurance for laboratories involved in screening newborns and children for heritable disorders
  - Quality assurance for NBS tests
  - Performance evaluation services
  - Technical assistance and technology transfer to NBS laboratories
  - Assistance to ensure analytic validity and utility of screening tests
- ❑ Appropriate quality control and other performance test materials to evaluate the performance of new screening tools



# Newborn Screening and Molecular Biology Branch Organization

**Newborn Screening and  
Molecular Biology Branch  
(NSMBB)**

**Newborn  
Screening Quality  
Assurance  
Program  
(NSQAP)**

**Newborn  
Screening  
Translation  
Research Initiative  
(NSTRI)**

**Biochemical Mass  
Spectrometry  
Laboratory  
(BMSL)**

**Molecular Quality  
Improvement  
Program  
(MQIP)**

# **The Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program**

*The only comprehensive quality assurance  
program using the dried-blood spots*

## **Laboratory Services Provided by NSQAP**

- 1. Filter paper evaluation**
- 2. DBS reference and quality control materials**
- 3. Proficiency Testing**
- 4. Internet reporting site for laboratories**
- 5. Follow-up of False negative results**
- 6. Training, consultation, network resources**

# Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program Statistics in 2010

**100%** participation of US states

**67** countries participated

**717,255** DBS produced

**28** employees

**36** new enrollments

**463** labs enrolled at year end

**456** labs reported data

**391** labs participated in PT

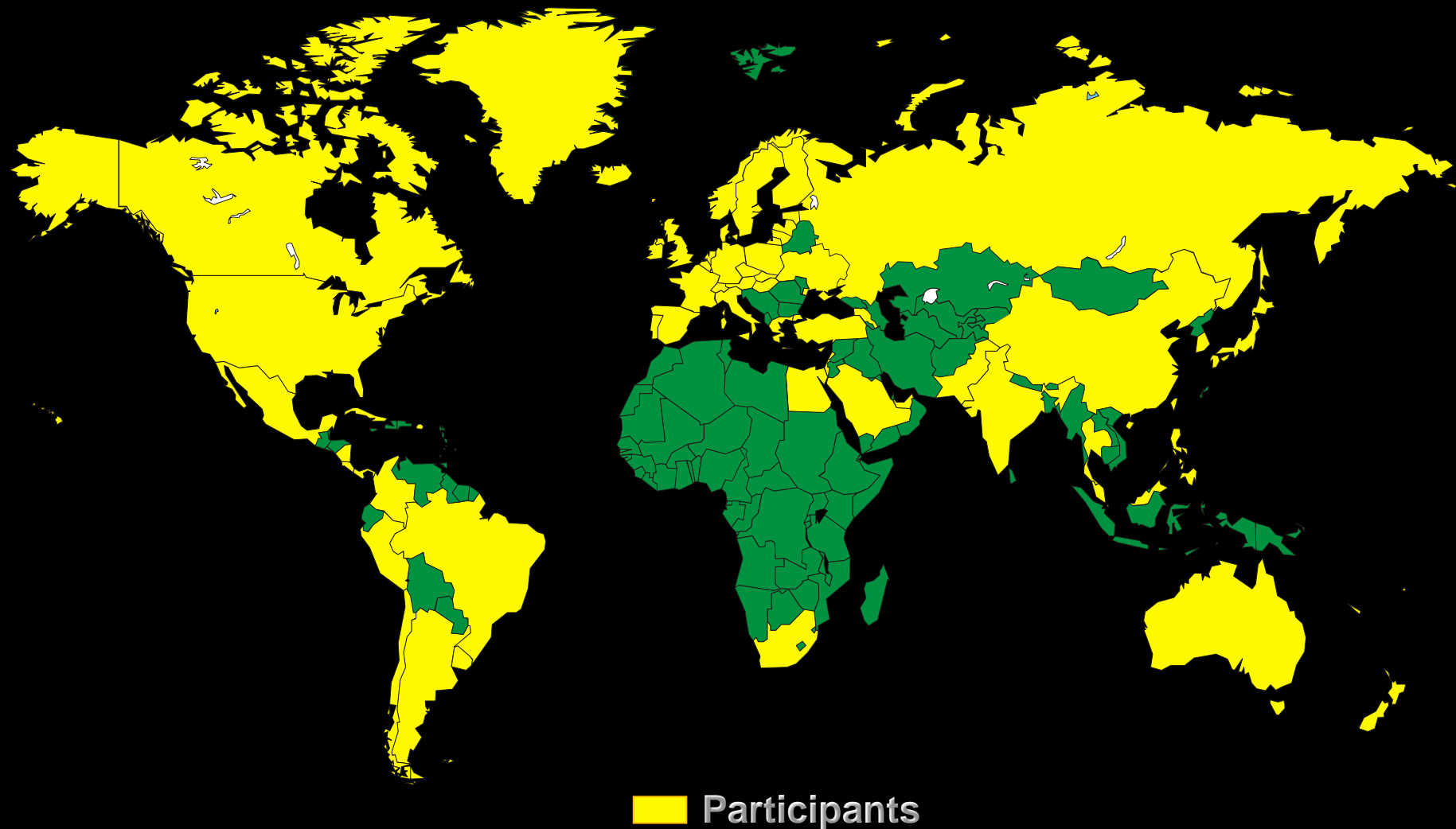
**337** labs participated in QC

**17** reports to participants

**4** filter paper lots evaluated



# Sixty-seven Countries Participated in the Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program in 2010



# NSQAP provides QA materials in dried blood spots for Newborn Screening Disorders

## Inborn Errors of Metabolism

Galactosemia  
Glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency  
Biotinidase deficiency

## Hemoglobinopathies

Sickle cell anemia  
Hb S/C disease (Hb S/C)  
HbS/Beta-thalassemia (Hb/Th)

## Endocrinopathies

Congenital hypothyroidism  
Congenital adrenal hyperplasia

## Fatty Acid Oxidation Disorders

Medium chain acyl-CoA dehydrogenase deficiency  
Long chain 3 hydroxy-CoA dehydrogenase deficiency  
Very long chain acyl-CoA dehydrogenase deficiency  
Carnitine transporter deficiency  
Trifunctional protein deficiency

## Urea cycle disorders

Citrullinemia  
Argininosuccinic aciduria  
Argininemia

## Amino acid disorders

Phenylketonuria (PKU)  
Maple syrup urine disease  
Homocystinuria (cystathionine synthase deficiency)  
Tyrosinemia, type I and type II

## Organic Acid Disorders

Propionic acidemia  
Methylmalonic acidemia  
Multiple carboxylase deficiency  
3-hydroxy 3-methylglutaric CoA lyase deficiency  
3-methylcrotonyl CoA carboxylase deficiency  
Isovaleric acidemia  
Glutaric acidemia, type 1  
Beta-ketothiolase deficiency

## Cystic Fibrosis

## SCID and T Cell Lymphopenias



# Newborn Screening Translation Research Initiative

## *Mission:*

Assure that the translation of research methods into routine laboratory tests for newborn screening leads to sustainable high-quality testing and healthier babies worldwide

- ❑ Develop new screening methods for specific diseases
- ❑ Integrate State Public Health Laboratories into the translation process through collaborative field studies
- ❑ Expand global reach of newborn screening
- ❑ Adapt innovative technologies for screening and quality assurance

*Ongoing collaboration between the CDC Foundation and NSMBB*



# Ongoing Newborn Screening Translation Research Initiative Laboratory Projects

## ❑ Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID)

- Produces PT materials for TREC assay
- Developed *in situ* qPCR TREC assay specific for DBS
- Trains laboratory personnel and provides technical support

## ❑ Lysosomal Storage Disorders

- Produces QC and PT materials for five disorders: Fabry, Gaucher, Krabbe, Niemann-Pick and Pompe and distributes Genzyme reagents to participating programs
- Trains laboratory personnel and provides technical support

## ❑ New and emerging technologies in NBS

# Biochemical Mass Spectrometry Laboratory

## Mission Statement:

Work with public health partners to develop *new mass spectrometry-based assays* to detect and monitor metabolic disorders, and *enhance newborn screening laboratory performance* through innovative approaches to biochemical marker detection.

## Selected Priorities:

- ❑ Develop new methods for the analysis of dried-blood for metabolic screening and diagnosis of selected inborn errors of metabolism
- ❑ Pilot program for MS/MS analyte ratios analysis for metabolic disorders to improve specificity of existing MS/MS-based newborn screening assays



# Mass Spectrometry Quality Assurance Helps Laboratories Achieve High Proficiency

## Public health impact:

- ❑ 100% coverage of primary biomarkers for simultaneous, high-throughput detection of 43 disorders - *high impact, cost-efficient*
- ❑ QC program for lysosomal storage disorders screening - *pioneering QA for emerging newborn screening activities*
- ❑ QA materials to enhance analytical specificity through second-tier tests - *technical expertise and leadership expands disease diagnosis*

# Molecular Quality Improvement Program

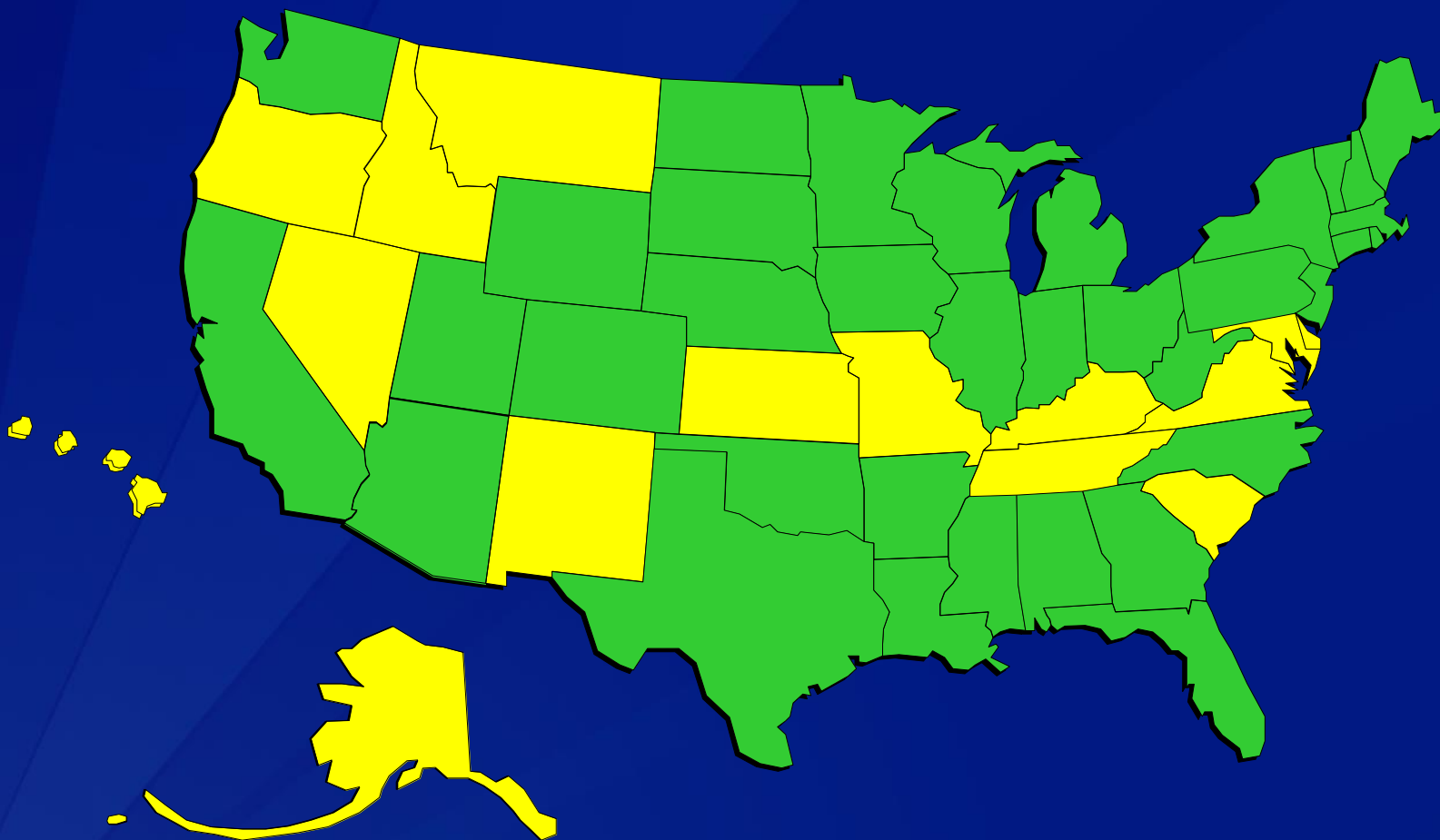
## Mission:

*Work with public health laboratories to detect newborn disorders with molecular methods, and provide a public health forum to exchange molecular best practices, quality improvements and educational resources to enhance laboratory performance.*

- ❑ Second tier and primary molecular methods are now being used by a number of newborn screening laboratories
- ❑ Molecular screening brings new and different technologies into the NBS laboratory creating a need for newborn screening laboratory resources



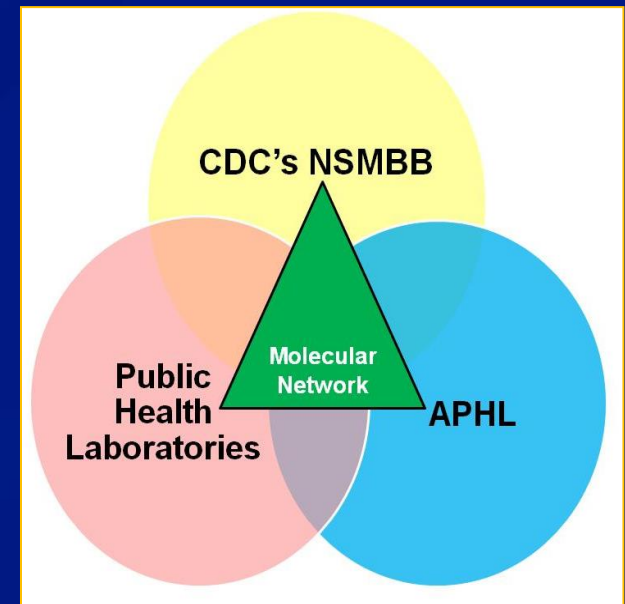
# NBS Molecular Testing Status: 2010



36 state labs (denoted in green) offer a molecular test  
84% of babies born/year

# Molecular Quality Improvement Activities

- ❑ Establishment of the NBS Molecular Network
- ❑ Implementation of NBS Molecular Assessment Program (MAP)
- ❑ Quality assurance research to identify and develop quality molecular methods for the DBS matrix
- ❑ Molecular characterization of quality assurance materials (e.g. cystic fibrosis and hemoglobinopathies)
- ❑ Translational research to address NBS community identified needs and quality assurance protocols



# Newborn Screening and Molecular Biology Branch FY2011 Priorities

- ❑ Sustain and strengthen existing Quality Assurance programs
  - Involved in several active collaborations to expand existing proficiency testing materials and resources for Cystic Fibrosis
  - Ongoing collaboration with Ghana to establish a mutually beneficial program to expand NBS proficiency testing for hemoglobinopathies
    - Ghana has one of the highest incidences of Sickle Cell world wide

Country	Population (millions)	Birth Rate	Total Births	SCD Birth Rate	Total SCD Births
Ghana	23.8	29.6	705,575	1:55	12,829
USA	308.8	14.0	4,323,634	1:2,474	1,748

# Newborn Screening and Molecular Biology Branch FY2011 Priorities cont.

- ❑ Implement quality assurance programs for recent additions to the newborn screening panel (e.g. SCID)
  - NSMBB, as early advocates of SCID NBS, provided greater than \$3 million over 3 years to support SCID screening in Wisconsin and Massachusetts NBS laboratories and in the Navajo Population
  - In September 2011, new funds will support two new states implement SCID screening for 2 years
  - Ongoing SCID proficiency testing program - TREC Model Performance Evaluation Survey (MPES) - currently 11 participants
  - CDC developed *in situ* qPCR assay to detect TREC in dried blood spots



# Newborn Screening and Molecular Biology Branch FY2011 Priorities cont.

- Identify gaps and address laboratory needs as NBS laboratories introduce routine molecular testing
  - Creation of the Molecular Quality Improvement Program (MQIP)
  - NBS Molecular Network
  - Molecular Assessment Program (MAP)
  - Collaborative laboratory research to assure quality molecular testing

# Branch Contact Information

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The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.