



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

APR 13 2018

Joseph A. Bocchini, Jr., M.D.
Committee Chairperson
Advisory Committee on Heritable
Disorders in Newborns and Children
Professor and Chairperson
Department of Pediatrics
Louisiana State University
1501 Kings Highway
Shreveport, LA 71130

Dear Dr. Bocchini:

Thank you for your letter to Secretary Azar from the Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children (Committee) submitting the Committee's recommendation to add Spinal Muscular Atrophy to the Recommended Uniform Screening Panel. The Secretary asked me to respond to you on his behalf.

Please be assured that this recommendation will receive careful review within the Department. You will receive a more detailed response regarding actions on the recommendation within 120 days, as required by the Newborn Screening Saves Live Reauthorization Act of 2014.

Please accept my personal thanks to you and the members on the Committee for all of your valuable work to improve the health of our nation's infants and children.

Sincerely,

\s\

Eric D. Hargan