



DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
BUREAU OF COMMUNITY HEALTH PROMOTION

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Dear Parent/Parents:

Congratulations on the birth of your new baby. Shortly after your baby was born, your baby received a heel prick for newborn screening tests. Wisconsin's newborn screening includes a test for Cystic Fibrosis (CF). Cystic Fibrosis is a genetic condition that usually affects the lungs and digestive system. The result of your baby's test was initially positive, which means there is a **possibility** that s/he has this condition. Although a very small percentage of babies who have an initial positive newborn screen actually have CF, your baby needs to have a simple test, called a sweat test, to be sure that s/he does not have CF.

The sweat test is painless. A small area of your baby's arm will be made to sweat. The sweat is collected and the amount of salt is measured. People with CF have an unusually high amount of salt in their sweat.

No special care is needed in preparation for the sweat test. You should feed, bathe, and care for your baby as usual.

We recommend that you call one of the physicians listed below to obtain more information and to arrange for the sweat testing of your baby. Your doctor may be able to help with the necessary arrangements.

|                     |                       |            |              |
|---------------------|-----------------------|------------|--------------|
| Peter Holzwarth, MD | St. Vincent Hospital  | Green Bay  | 920-496-4700 |
| Todd Mahr, MD       | Gundersen Clinic      | La Crosse  | 608-775-2599 |
| Michael Rock, MD    | University of WI      | Madison    | 608-263-6420 |
| Nicholas Antos, MD  | Children's Hosp of WI | Milwaukee  | 414-266-6730 |
| Joshua Freedman, MD | Marshfield Clinic     | Marshfield | 715-898-6251 |

I very much understand that this may be upsetting information to receive from your baby's doctor, especially at such a joyful time.

If after speaking with one of the above physicians, you wish to talk with someone further about your concerns or questions, please feel free to contact our Newborn Screening Coordinator at 608-266-8904.

In addition, the following website provides useful information:

[www.cff.org/aboutcf/testing/newbornscreening](http://www.cff.org/aboutcf/testing/newbornscreening)

Sincerely,

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