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Dear Parent:

All children in Delaware have blood tests done soon after birth to check for several different hereditary conditions. Your baby's first newborn screening test showed hemoglobin F (fetal), A (adult), S (sickle) and Barts. Hemoglobin F, A, and S suggests sickle cell trait. This is not a dangerous condition and has no effect on your baby's health. The presence of Hemoglobin Barts does not indicate any immediate danger but may mean your baby could develop a form of anemia known as Thalassemia. This is rarely a threat to health.

If your baby has already had a second test, the test does not need to be repeated. If your baby has not had a second test, please arrange to have the test repeated.

Please make arrangements to discuss this with your physician. Further testing may be required.

We recommend that you call your doctor or our office at 302-744-4544 or toll free at 1-800-262-3030 if you have further questions. As more information becomes available we will share it with you.

Sincerely,

Louis Bartoshesky M.D., M.P.H Genetics Medical Director

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