The article heading for 7 AAC 27, Article 10 is changed to read:

**Article 10. Screening of Newborn Children for Congenital [METABOLIC] Disorders.**

7 AAC 27.510 is amended to read:

**7 AAC 27.510. Uniform standards.** (a) The screening of newborn children for congenital [METABOLIC] disorders under 7 AAC 27.510 - 7 AAC 27.590 [7 AAC 27.510 - 7 AAC 27.580] must be performed at a single laboratory designated by the department. The screening must be performed on a specimen of the newborn child's blood collected as specified in 7 AAC 27.530. The screening must include tests for phenylketonuria, hypothyroidism, galactosemia, and congenital adrenal hyperplasia. Other conditions may be tested for if the designated laboratory has a test method suitable to the department.

(b) Unless the parent or guardian denies a request for specimens [AS DESCRIBED IN AS 18.15.210], screening under 7 AAC 27.510 - 7 AAC 27.590 [7 AAC 27.510 - 7 AAC 27.580] is required for a newborn child in the state. A newborn child who has not been screened must be reported to the department as prescribed in 7 AAC 27.530(c) [AND (d)]. (Eff. 12/30/77, Register 64; am 2/3/88, Register 105; am 7/13/94, Register 131; am 7/16/2011, Register 199; am 7/1/2018, Register 226)

**Authority:** AS 18.05.040 AS 18.15.200 AS 18.15.210
7 AAC 27.520(a) is amended to read:

(a) Responsibility for collection and submission of specimens resides with the health care provider [PHYSICIAN OR CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIFE UNDER AS 18.15.200, OR CERTIFIED DIRECT-ENTRY MIDWIFE UNDER 12 AAC 14.530] attending the newborn child. If a newborn child [WHO] is not attended by a [ONE OF THESE] health care provider, the department encourages [PROVIDERS SHOULD BE PRESENTED BY] the newborn child's parent or guardian to present the newborn child as early as possible within the newborn child's first 48 hours [WEEK] of life to a health care provider [PHYSICIAN OR PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE] for the required testing as described in 7 AAC 27.530.

(Eff. 12/30/77, Register 64; am 2/3/88, Register 105; am 7/13/94, Register 131; am 7/16/2011, Register 199; am 7/1/2018, Register 226)

Authority: AS 18.05.040 AS 18.15.200 AS 18.15.210

7 AAC 27.530 is repealed and readopted to read:

7 AAC 27.530. Collection of blood specimen; refusal of collection. (a) The minimum blood specimen collection requirements for the screening described in 7 AAC 27.510 are the following:

(1) one specimen must be collected before the newborn child is 48 hours of age;

(2) if the screening of the initial specimen shows an abnormal result for one or more of the tested conditions or the specimen was contaminated, spoiled, or otherwise not adequate for screening, a second specimen must be collected if requested by the department; and

(3) a second specimen may be required if a newborn child is born prematurely,
has a low birth weight, or is admitted to a specialty care unit according to the department's and the unit's screening procedures.

(b) The blood specimen must be collected using the procedure described on the test card for the screening provided by the department. The specimen must be submitted on the test card provided by the department. All information requested on the test card must be provided by the attending health care provider. The specimen must be shipped to the designated laboratory not later than 24 hours after the time the specimen is collected, according to the department's and facility's guidelines and at the department's expense.

(c) If a parent or guardian of a newborn child refuses to permit collection of a specimen, the department encourages the parent or guardian to affirm that refusal by signing a refusal statement, including the same information requested on the test card. The health care provider shall send a copy of the refusal statement to the department. If the parents do not sign the refusal statement, the health care facility shall send the department a copy of the unsigned refusal statement and state in writing on the unsigned statement that the parent or guardian refused to permit collection of a specimen and refused to sign the refusal statement. (Eff. 12/30/77, Register 64; am 10/31/82, Register 84; am 2/3/88, Register 105; am 7/13/94, Register 131; am 12/13/97, Register 144; am 7/16/2011, Register 199; am 7/1/2018, Register 236)

Authority: AS 18.05.040 AS 18.15.200 AS 18.15.210

Editor's note: The address for reporting the information described in 7 AAC 27.530(c) is the Department of Health and Social Services, division of public health, section of women's, children's, and family health, [IS] 3601 C Street, Suite 322, Anchorage, AK 99503.