



NBSTRN NEWSLETTER

NBSTRN's Virtual Repository of Dried Blood Spots Monthly Training Demos

This winter, mark your calendars for a demonstration of the Virtual Repository of Dried Blood Spots (VRDBS). The NBSTRN's VRDBS allows researchers to locate and access up to 3 million de-identified dried blood spot specimens from participation states. The VRDBS is a secure web-based tool where dried blood spots are controlled by the state public health programs and requests for dried blood spots are reviewed by state newborn screening programs through the VRDBS system. Additionally, the VRDBS provides support to researchers so they can request a letter of support from the NBSTRN or participating newborn screening programs, and "submit question to newborn screening program" through the system.

Public training webinars are held on the third Thursday of the month at 2:00pm EST. The next public training webinars will be held on:

Nov 20

Dec 18

Jan 15

Feb 19

Mar 19

These one hour training sessions will demonstrate a variety of features available to investigators. At the end of the hour participants will have the opportunity ask direct questions to the presenters. The webinars are intended for potential investigators, but anyone is welcome to join to learn more about the VRDBS. To register for the VRDBS or to find out more about this tool please visit, the [VRDBS landing page](#) on [NBSTRN.org](#).



VRDBS | Virtual Repository of Dried Blood Spots



Visit the
NBSTRN
[Facebook](#)

[page](#) to find
opportunities in the
Newborn Screening
community.





If you have topics for inclusion in future newsletters, please let us know by emailing

rfleming@acmg.net

Spotlight on a Newborn Screening Researcher

Our spotlight researcher of the month currently directs the Pediatric Motor Disorders Research Program and Neuromuscular Electrodiagnostic Laboratory at Primary Children's Medical Center at the University of Utah. She is also the Principal Investigator for the Project Cure SMA Investigator's Network, an international multi-center clinical research collaboration intended to facilitate transplantation of new therapies for treatment trials. She is also currently a professor in the neurology department as well as an adjunct associate professor in pediatrics at the University of Utah.

This researcher has an extensive medical background. She received her M.D. from Northwestern University Medical School and went on to complete a neuromuscular fellowship as well as a genetics fellowship from Boston Children's Hospital.

Read more and find out who the Researcher of the Month is by visiting: <https://www.nbstrn.org/about/spotlight-researchers>

Update on National Monthly Calls for Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID)

The SCID National Monthly calls have been moved to a rescheduled date and time. They will now be held on the first Monday of every month at 3:00 pm EST.

On these calls, you will hear presentations from state coordinators who are in the process of implementing SCID screening, a state map update from NewSTEPs displaying which states are currently screening or close to screening for SCID, as well as collaborative discussion from state representatives.

If you would like to join us for these webinars, please contact Rachel Fleming, at rfleming@acmg.net to be added to the listserv. If this time does not work for you, the NBSTRN has recorded monthly calls and they will be available with slides in our [Newsroom](#) on the NBSTRN.org.

Our next call will be December 1st at 3:00pm EST. Please feel free to join!

