

The Honourable Adriana LaGrange
Minister of Health
Government of Alberta
228 Legislature Building, 10800 - 97 Avenue NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6

Dear Minister LaGrange,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the expansion of the Alberta Newborn Screening Program, with a particular focus on incorporating screening for congenital Cytomegalovirus (CMV). As a [friend of the family/grandparent] of children who have experienced the impact of CMV, I have witnessed firsthand the significant benefits that early detection and intervention can bring to the health and well-being of newborns.

CMV is a prevalent viral infection that can lead to serious health complications, especially when contracted during pregnancy or at birth. Children born with congenital CMV may face challenges such as hearing loss, developmental delays, vision impairments, and other lifelong obstacles. Swift diagnosis and timely intervention play a pivotal role in providing these children with the best possible outcomes and ensuring they receive the necessary medical care and support.

The inclusion of CMV screening within the Alberta Newborn Screening Program will empower healthcare professionals to promptly identify affected infants and guide them to appropriate medical resources. Furthermore, it will facilitate the implementation of preventive measures and early interventions to mitigate the long-term consequences of CMV infection.

As someone who deeply cares about the well-being of children, I firmly believe that investing in preventive healthcare initiatives, like the expansion of the newborn screening program, is of paramount importance in safeguarding the overall health and happiness of our youngest generation. The economic viability and positive influence of early detection in cases of congenital CMV are immeasurable. I earnestly urge the Alberta government to give priority to expanding the Alberta Newborn Screening Program to encompass CMV screening. By doing so, we can take a significant stride forward in protecting the health of our littlest citizens and affording them the most promising start in life.

Thank you for considering my input and for your unwavering commitment to enhancing the health and well-being of Alberta's children.

Warm regards,

[Your Name]

[Friend of the Family/Grandparent]