2015 Alabama Newborn Screening Conference



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The Origin of Newborn Screening

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Phenylketonuria (PKU)

Clinical Phenotype

- Intellectual Disability (Moderate Severe)
- Autism / Autism Spectrum
- Hyperactivity (often severe)
- Seizures
- Eczema

PKU Dietary Protein (phenylalanine) PAH Phenylalanine Tyrosine

Dietary Phe-free AA mix Low-protein foods Natural Special

Several investigators discovered that newborn initiation of diet prevented ID in PKU

1955 - 1962



Newborn Screening

- Guthrie specimen
 - Heel stick
 - Filter paper
 - Dried blood
- Transport to Central Lab



Guthrie Test

- · Bacterial assay
- Growth zone



Opposition to Mandatory Newborn Screening

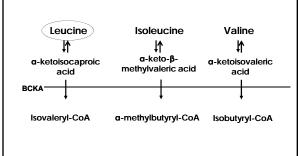
- American Academy of Pediatrics, 1964
 - "The enthusiasts...without taking into account parents...unwilling or unable to maintain dietary treatment. Over-rigidity of dietary management has led to early death...Unrealistic claims for normalcy...have led to frustration and discouragement on the part of pediatricians and parents."

Maple Syrup Urine Disease (MSUD)

- Neonatal disease
- · Intellectual disability
- Ketoacidosis
- Maple syrup odor (ear)
- Increased leucine



Maple Syrup Urine Disease



BCKA= branched chain a-ketoacid dehydrogenase complex

Homocystinuria (CBS DEF)

- · Intellectual disability
- · Ectopia lentis
- · Skeletal abnormalities
- Thromboembolism
- · Increased methionine



Congenital Hypothyroidism

- Intellectual disability
- Coarse facies
- Hypotonia
- · Growth delay
- Reduced thyroxine



Sickle Cell Disease

- * Bacterial infections, often fatal
- · Hemolytic anemia
- Splenomegaly
- Bone disease
- Stroke

Glutaric Acidemia I

- Macrocephaly
- Encephalopathic episodes
- Dystonia



Tandem Mass Spectrometry (MS/MS)

- Single assay for multiple disorders
- Wide range
- · Pattern analysis
- Increased efficiency



NBS in the U.S. < 2006

- · Lack of uniformity
 - -Some states 5 disorders
 - -Other states 12 disorders
 - -Several states 25-30+ disorders
- Baby in one state detected; baby in an adjoining state not detected

Cystic Fibrosis

- · Chronic pulmonary disease
- Pancreatic insufficiency
- Positive sweat test
- · High morbidity
- Eventual early death

Newborn Screening Advisory Committees

- Pediatricians
- Biochemical (metabolic) geneticists
- Endocrinologists
- Public health personnel
- Ethicists
- Lawyers

Family Support Organizations

- National PKU Alliance
- National Urea Cycle Disorders Foundation
- Organic Acidemia Foundation
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
- Hunter's Hope Foundation
- FOD Family Support Group

Faculty

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