



Protecting, Maintaining and Improving the Health of All Minnesotans

June 20, 2017

Sara Oberg, Newborn Hearing Screening Advisory Committee Chair
Health Partners Specialty Center /Division of Regions Hospital
4001 Phalen Blvd
St. Paul, MN 55130

Dear Ms. Oberg,

Thank you for sending me the *2017 Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Guidelines for Primary Care and Medical Home Providers* developed and approved by the Newborn Hearing Screening Advisory Committee.

The guidelines do an excellent job of promoting a standardized approach to hearing screening, diagnosis and care for infants and young children who are deaf or hard of hearing within a child's medical home. I believe that the recommendations will be useful in guiding primary care and medical home providers in providing the best possible care for children who are deaf or hard of hearing and ultimately improve outcomes so children are able to reach their full academic and social potential.

I thank the work group for the development of these important guidelines and appreciate their commitment to promote and protect the health of children who are deaf or hard of hearing. It is my pleasure to accept the *2017 Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Guidelines for Primary Care and Medical Home Providers*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edward P. Ehlinger'.

Edward P. Ehlinger, M.D., M.S.P.H.
Commissioner
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