**ACT SHEET FOR POSITIVE NEWBORN SCREENING RESULT**  
**FAV, FVA, FV**  
**HEMOGLOBIN VARIANT** (unknown variant on screen)

### Meaning of the Screening Result:
Newborn Screening results of FAV, FVA, or FV indicate a variant hemoglobin present on screen which the screening test cannot specify. Most variants are of a benign nature, however if a co-existent thalassemia is present, clinical significance must be determined.

### YOU SHOULD TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:
- **Contact the family** to inform them of the screening result and offer education and counseling.
- **Order confirmatory testing (hemoglobin electrophoresis by IEF and HPLC).**
- Reassure the family that infants typically do not have clinical problems related to the carrier state for most variant hemoglobin types.
- Encourage parents to seek testing for thalassemia and hemoglobin variants followed by genetic counseling.
- **Consider contacting a specialist in hemoglobinopathies for consultation or referral** on diagnostic evaluation and management as needed.
- **Report findings** to Nebraska Newborn Screening Program.

### Condition Description:
There are hundreds of hemoglobinopathies of a benign nature that typically show as FAV, FVA or FV on the newborn screen.

### Clinical Expectations:
Variable, depending on specific variant, and co-existent hemoglobins. For most of these, the patient will have no untoward symptoms. However, if a coexistent thalassemia that is clinically significant is present, patients can have variable symptoms from microcytic anemia, to severe complications.

### Confirmation of Diagnosis:
Order a newborn confirmation **hemoglobin electrophoresis by IEF (Ioelectric Focusing) and HPLC (High Performance Liquid Chromatography)**. Depending on these results, further testing may be necessary and family studies may be required to definitively diagnose the baby.

### Additional information:
- Hemoglobinopathy Video with CME available at: [www.childrensomaha.org/medicaleducation](http://www.childrensomaha.org/medicaleducation)
- [http://sickle.bwh.harvard.edu/screening.html](http://sickle.bwh.harvard.edu/screening.html) scroll down to: Unidentified Hemoglobin Variants

Pediatric specialists in hemoglobinopathies are available at Children’s Hospital (402)955-3950 & UNMC/Nebraska Med Center (402)559-7257.