Why is my baby being tested for congenital CMV infection?

Your baby's doctor has recommended your baby be tested for a virus, or germ, called CMV. This stands for "cytomegalovirus." CMV is a common virus which is usually harmless, but CMV sometimes causes medical complications for newborns and young children. If a baby catches this virus before being born, it is called **congenital CMV**

There are several reasons why a baby should be tested for CMV. The most common reasons are that: (1) the baby is small, or (2) the baby might have hearing loss.

This is the reason **your baby** is being tested:

_____

The test for CMV should be done within the first 3 weeks of life. The test is easy and painless, using either saliva or urine. Saliva is collected with a swab from the mouth and urine is collected in a plastic bag. The test result comes back in 3-7 days. The result is sent to the doctor who ordered the test in the hospital and the doctor who will be seeing your baby after you go home from the hospital.

Your baby's doctor is: _____

That doctor's phone number is: _____

If you have not been told the result of this test by the time your baby is 10 days old, call your baby's doctor to ask about the result. If the test shows your baby has congenital CMV infection, your baby's doctor will order more tests and talk to an expert about what to do next.

To learn more about CMV in newborns, you can look at these websites:
Center for Disease Control: cdc.gov/cmv/resources
National CMV Foundation: nationalcmv.org

If you want to talk with a family that has a child with congenital CMV, send an email to the Colorado cCMV Family Network at cCMV@co-hv.org

Colorado cCMV Family Network

Colorado Chapter
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