

# Cystic Fibrosis

## Information for Parents

### What is Cystic Fibrosis?

- Cystic Fibrosis (CF) causes problems with how well the lungs work.
- CF is passed down in our genes from parents to children. Usually the parents do not have CF but can carry it in their genes.

### How do we know that my child has Cystic Fibrosis?

- Pennsylvania has a newborn screening program that screens for many different medical conditions.
- A very small amount of your baby's blood was collected at the hospital in the first few days of life.
- Your baby's newborn screen showed us that the CF level was high. It needs to be repeated.
- 90% of babies who have a high CF level on the newborn screen will NOT have CF on the repeat test.

### What do we do now?

- Based on how high the level is, we may take blood again when your baby is 2 weeks old.
- Sometimes we will send the baby to see a pulmonologist (a lung doctor) in order to get a special test done called a chloride sweat test when the baby is 4 weeks old.