Tennessee

Procedure for Inquiries Regarding Sickle Cell Trait Results for Athletes

Date: April 2013

Subject: NCAA Rule for Sickle Cell Testing of Athletes
Sickle Cell testing Information for families and colleges

If a student’s status with regards to being confirmed as having sickle cell trait or disease needs to be determined, the following steps should be performed:

- Contact the Primary Care Provider that saw the child prior to age one year. The provider may have a copy of the newborn screening results that identify normal hemoglobin or possible Sickle Cell Disease or Trait. **It is important to note that Newborn Screening Program results are only screening results and the diagnosis of trait or disease must come from confirmatory testing, performed at a specialized laboratory.** If the screen indicated possible Sickle Cell Disease or Trait the provider may have a copy of the confirmatory test results.

- If records indicated possible Sickle Cell Disease or Trait and that confirmatory testing was done at the Meharry Sickle Cell Center (MSCC) the student may contact them in writing for the confirmatory result. Phone: (615) 327-6763 Fax: (615) 327-6008 Email: sickle_cell@mmc.edu. Provide the student’s name, and date of birth. Include contact information (address where to send the result, phone number and email address). If the student is a minor, the parent/guardian needs to sign the request. **Please note: Electronic records before 2002 are not available at the MSCC.**

- If no test results are available from the Primary Care Provider or the MSCC, the student may obtain a new test from their provider. Athletic programs may want to contact the sickle cell center in their area to arrange for sickle cell trait testing.

**Sickle Cell Centers**
- St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Memphis (901) 595-5670/(866) 269-6536
- Meharry Sickle Cell Center, Nashville (615) 327-6763
- University of Tennessee, Knoxville (865) 305-9030/(800) 325-3894
- T.C. Thompson Children’s Hospital, Chattanooga (423) 778-7289