

In Brief This Week: Bridges-NBS, AbelZeta, Sundas Foundation, NIRBA, Revolution Medicines

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NEW YORK – The Building Evidence and Collaboration for Genomics in Nationwide Newborn Screening (BEACON-NBS) project said this week that it has been renamed Bridges-NBS. The project, supported with \$14.4 million from the NIH Common Fund Venture Program and in-kind support from GeneDx and Illumina, will assess the feasibility of integrating whole-genome sequencing into existing state newborn screening systems through US public health laboratories. Earlier this year, the effort [selected](#) six states and one US territory to participate and finalized a list of 746 genes, associated with 777 conditions, for screening. The goal is to enroll up to 30,000 newborns over three years. According to co-PI Robert Green, the name change became necessary to avoid confusion with unrelated projects and genetics services and products that have the word "Beacon" or "Beacons" in them. Fulgent Genetics, for example, has a trademarked genetic carrier screening testing called "Beacon."