

Dear **[Editor/Reporter Name]**,

I am writing as a local parent/family member affected by congenital cytomegalovirus (CMV), a common virus that can have life-changing consequences for babies when passed from mother to child during pregnancy.

For our family, CMV has meant **[briefly describe your experience – for example: hearing loss, developmental delay, long-term disability, ongoing medical care, or late diagnosis]**. Like many families, we had never heard of CMV until it changed our lives. Yet CMV is the most common congenital infection in the UK and a leading cause of childhood hearing loss and neurodisability.

There is currently a national consultation underway by the National Screening Committee on whether newborn screening for CMV should be introduced. Early diagnosis through screening could allow families to access monitoring, support, and treatment sooner, and avoid the long diagnostic journeys that so many of us have experienced.

The charity [CMV Action](#) is calling on families and supporters to share their voices and respond to the consultation. This is a rare opportunity for affected families to influence policy and raise awareness of a condition that is still widely misunderstood and under-reported.

I am asking if you would consider covering this issue, sharing the experiences of local families, and highlighting the importance of newborn CMV screening. Greater awareness could help prevent avoidable harm and ensure families are not left without answers.

Consultation responses must be submitted by Friday 6th February and information about the consultation can be found via CMV Action's [website](#).

Thank you for taking the time to consider this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

[Your full name]

[Your town/area], [your phone number or email]

CMV Action contact: hannahphillips@cmvaction.org.uk