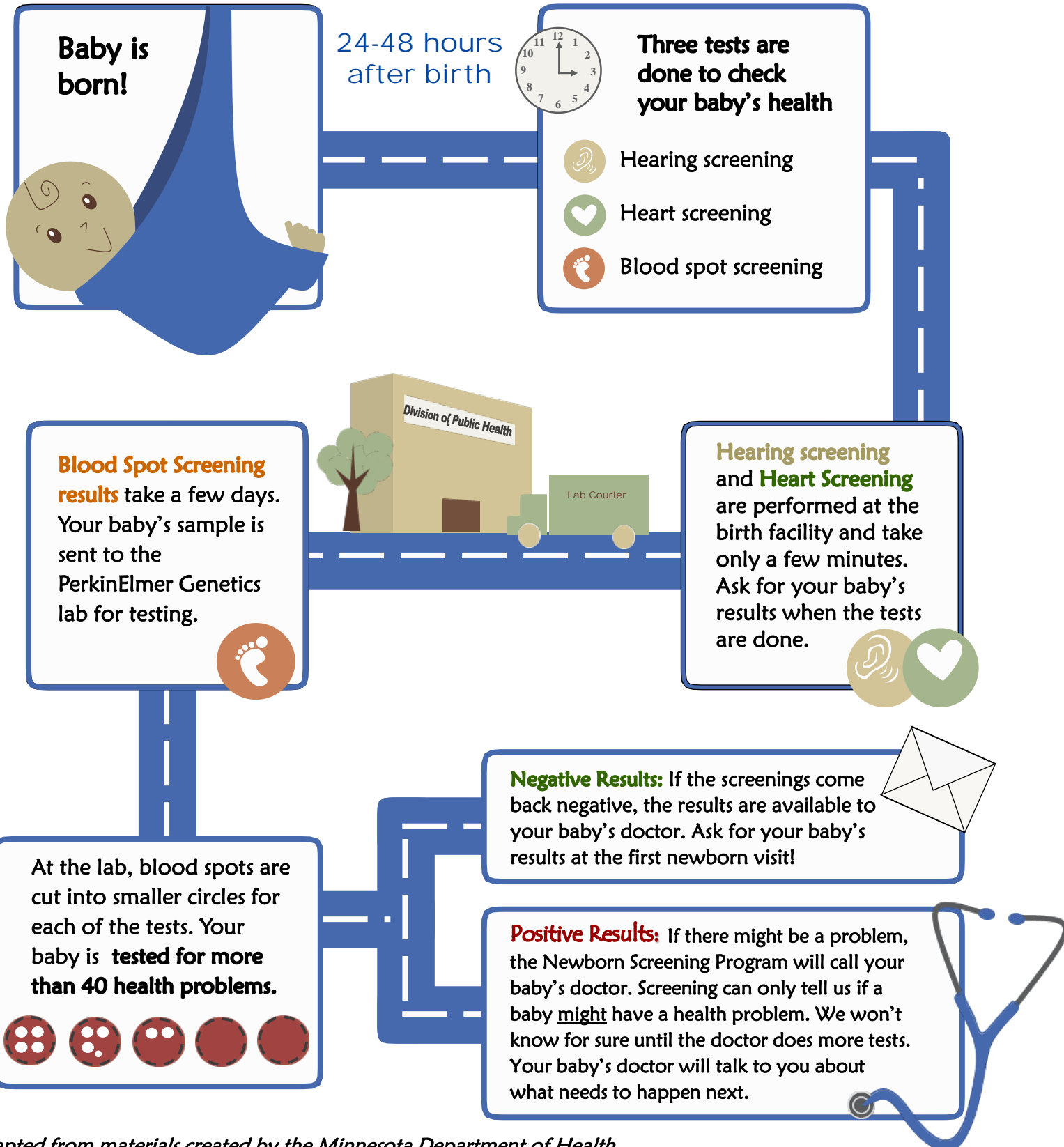




# Newborn Screening

## How Does it Work?



# Newborn Screening Options

What **OPTIONS** do parents have when getting their baby screened?

Parents can choose what happens with leftover blood spots and the results.



Each spot is smaller than the size of a dime.

If you choose options B, C or D, ask your doctor, nurse, or midwife for the forms you need.

**Option A:** All available newborn screenings will take place at the birth place/hospital at the proper time after birth. This is what normally happens, and **you do not have to do anything** to choose this option.

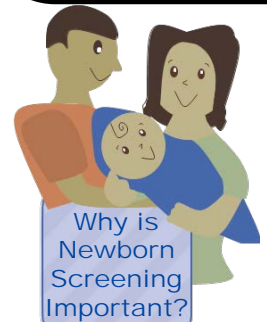
**Option B:** Parents can choose to refuse one or all newborn screenings

- ◆ Blood Spot screening
- ◆ Hearing screening
- ◆ Heart screening

**Option C:** Blood spots go into safe storage for three years at the Division of Public Health, after which they are destroyed. Parents can choose to have spots destroyed following testing.

**Option D:** Parents can choose to refuse that screening results be securely shared electronically through a health care information exchange. However, this may prevent health care professionals from timely access to information.

Division of Public Health



There are a few reasons why it is helpful to keep leftover blood spots at the Division of Public Health. These reasons include:

**Family Needs:** Some families ask for the spots later to do testing if their child gets sick. This can give us clues to whether something at birth made the child sick.

**Testing Improvement:** To make sure we find all babies with health problems, we must ensure that our tests and equipment are working properly. This is called quality control.

**New Test Development:** We use them to help develop new tests so that babies with other health problems can be found and treated early too. All blood spots used to make new tests are de-identified, meaning the baby's name or any identifying information is removed.

**Early Detection** of a disorder can mean a better chance of treating it. If not identified and treated soon after birth, **serious medical problems** or even death can occur.

**The Newborn Screening Program** wants each baby to have every opportunity to be as healthy as possible and to develop to their full potential.

Want to Know More?

Call us: 302-651-5079

<https://www.nemours.org/service/support/naidhcsupport/newborn-screening.html>

Nemours.