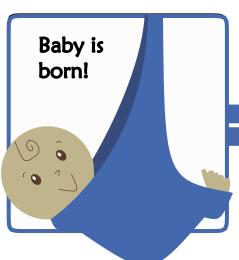


Newborn Screening

How Does it Work?



24-48 hours after birth



Three tests are done to check your baby's health



Hearing screening



Heart screening



Blood spot screening

Blood Spot Screening results take a few days. Your baby's sample is sent to the PerkinElmer Genetics lab for testing.



Hearing screening

and Heart Screening are performed at the birth facility and take only a few minutes. Ask for your baby's results when the tests are done.

At the lab, blood spots are cut into smaller circles for each of the tests. Your baby is tested for more than 40 health problems.













Negative Results: If the screenings come back negative, the results are available to your baby's doctor. Ask for your baby's results at the first newborn visit!

Positive Results: If there might be a problem, the Newborn Screening Program will call your baby's doctor. Screening can only tell us if a baby might have a health problem. We won't know for sure until the doctor does more tests. Your baby's doctor will talk to you about what needs to happen next.

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 vears 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/newbornscreening.html

