

# Newborn screening: Blood screen

## Three simple screens

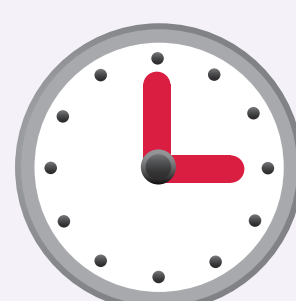


A baby may **look healthy** but be **born** with a **serious health condition**.



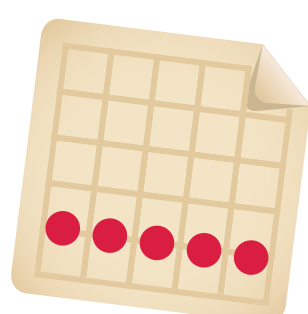
All babies in the United States receive newborn screening. Each state decides which conditions to screen for.

Helps identify **inherited, endocrine and metabolic** conditions.



If found **early**, many can be **treated**.

## Blood screen process



### Heel stick

**Before a baby leaves the hospital**, a health care provider **pricks the baby's heel** to get a **few drops of blood**. The blood drops are placed and dried on a **special paper**.

This should happen **within 48 hours** of a baby's birth.



### Shipping and testing

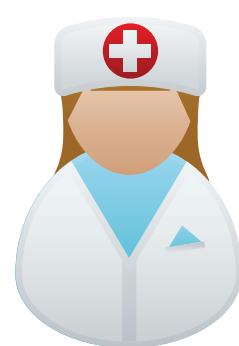
**Within 24 hours of the heel stick**, the paper with blood drops should be sent to a **newborn screening lab** for testing.



### Lab results

**Within 5 days of birth**, results for **time-critical conditions** should be shared with the baby's provider.

**Within 7 days of birth**, results for all other conditions should be shared with the baby's provider.



### Follow-up

All newborn screening results should be reported to the baby's provider within 7 days of birth.

**Positive screen** results require **further testing** and immediate **follow-up**.

### Negative screen:

- ✓ Provider is notified.
- ✓ Provider should follow up with **baby's family**.
- ✓ If parents don't hear about results, **call and ask** the provider.

### Positive screen:

- ✓ Provider is notified.
- ✓ Provider follows up with baby's family for **further testing**.
- ✓ **Diagnostic tests** must be done **immediately** to confirm results.
- ✓ **Intervention** should begin **as soon as possible**.