



New Hampshire Screening Policies

Storage: According to NH law RSA: section 132:10-a, the blood sample is kept in a lab for six months after your baby has been screened. After that, the sample is destroyed.

Ownership: Authorization to use the remaining blood sample for any other purpose is only with the written consent of a parent or guardian.



List of Conditions:

Immunological: These are conditions in which the body is unable to fight off serious and life threatening infections.

Hemoglobin: Conditions that affect the baby's blood. They can lead to anemia (not enough red blood cells), slow growth, pain, and damage to vital organs.

Endocrine: Babies with endocrine disorders do not make enough of certain types of hormones. This affects their growth and development.

Cystic Fibrosis (CF): This condition affects the salt or water content of certain body fluids such as sweat and mucus. CF can lead to problems with breathing, digestion and other body functions.

Fatty Acid Oxidation: Babies with these conditions have problems making energy from fat in the body or from food.

Organic Acid: Babies with these conditions have problems digesting certain parts of protein from the food they eat.

Early detection and treatment can prevent serious problems.

Questions & Resources

For more information about the screenings and what they mean, call or visit:

Baby's First Tests
www.babysfirsttest.org/

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Newborn Screening
www.cdc.gov/newbornscreening/

NH Newborn Screening Programs
(603) 271-4517 or 1-800-852-3345 x4517
www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/bchs/mch/newborn.htm

Newborn Screenings



New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services
Division of Public Health Services
Maternal and Child Health Section



As a new parent,

you have many decisions to make to keep your baby safe and healthy. Getting your baby screened for rare conditions before you come home is one of those important decisions.

All babies in New Hampshire are screened for rare health conditions. There are 3 types of screenings that are done shortly after birth for serious but treatable conditions. The screenings are done where you deliver your baby (hospital, birthing center, home). You don't have to ask for these screenings. They are done routinely before you bring your baby home.

Finding these conditions early can prevent serious problems.

Types of Screenings

Newborn Blood Screening

This screening looks for possible problems with:

1. your baby's ability to digest food (metabolic system)
2. your baby's ability to control other hormonal functions that affect growth and development (endocrine system)
3. your baby's ability to fight infection (hemoglobin and immunological system)

Early detection and treatment can prevent serious problems.

Newborn Hearing Screening

This screening looks for possible hearing problems. It is done while your baby is asleep. Babies use their hearing to learn to talk. So, it is important to find problems early.

Critical Congenital Heart Disease

This is a simple procedure that measures the amount of oxygen in your baby's blood. This screening looks for extremely rare heart problems that need to be treated immediately.



The results of the screenings will be sent to your baby's healthcare provider who will contact you if the screening needs to be repeated. This does not mean your baby has a problem or a rare condition, but have your baby retested right away. At your baby's first checkup, ask if the screenings results are available.