


# SPOTfocus

## Newborn Screening Quality Improvement Hints

To help improve performance of the screen

### COLLECT THE SECOND NEWBORN SCREEN AFTER 168 HOURS OF LIFE (7 DAYS)



No. For Texas DSHS Use Only

tion or NO Newborn's Last Name is provided.  
INFORMATION


First Name/Twin A or B  
G I R L

Birth - Date	Military Time
0 8 1 1 2 1	0 8 0 0
Collection - Date	Military Time
0 8 1 8 2 1	0 7 0 0

For DSHS use only

177001

From August 11, 2021 at 8:00 AM to August 18, 2021 at 7:00 AM is only **167** hours.



No. For Texas DSHS Use Only

tion or NO Newborn's Last Name is provided.  
INFORMATION

First Name/Twin A or B  
G I R L

Birth - Date	Military Time
0 8 1 1 2 1	0 8 0 0
Collection - Date	Military Time
0 8 1 8 2 1	0 8 0 0

For DSHS use only

177001

From August 11, 2021 at 8:00 AM to August 18, 2021 at 8:00 AM is **168** hours.

### TIPS TO ENSURE ACCURATE TEST RESULTS

**Exclusion of the time of collection from the label may cause DSHS to incorrectly classify specimens that are collected on Day 7 of life.**

- Always record as much information as possible correctly on the demographic form.
- If known record the time of birth and the time of collection in Military Time.
- Texas DSHS recommends collection of the second Newborn Screen at 7 to 14 days of age. When possible collect the second newborn screen after 168 hours of life.
- For collection of specimens in special circumstances please visit <https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/lab/nbsSpecialC.shtm>



## Why is it important to collect the routine second Newborn Screen after 168 hours of life?

The Texas Department of State Health Services recommends collection of the routine second newborn screening specimen between 7 to 14 days of age. However, specimens collected on the 7th day of life can actually be less than 7 days (i.e. less than 168 hours) if the time of collection is prior to the time of birth 7 days earlier (e.g. 6 days and 20 hours). Some DSHS screening algorithms are based on age in hours, and therefore second screens collected prior to 168 hours may have an increased risk to have false negative results. It is recommended that the routine second screen on a newborn be collected after 168 hours of life.

*Note:* When collecting a non-routine second screen, it is imperative that the additional screen be collected within the time frame advised by Clinical Care Coordination staff or the newborn screening result report.

### Other Helpful Resources



**General newborn screening specimen collection questions:**

[dshs.texas.gov/lab/nbs\\_collect\\_reqs.shtm](https://dshs.texas.gov/lab/nbs_collect_reqs.shtm)



**Newborn screening collection video:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vxshWnqJ114>



**Healthcare provider resources:**

[dshs.texas.gov/lab/nbsHCRes.shtm](https://dshs.texas.gov/lab/nbsHCRes.shtm)



**DSHS Newborn Screening Laboratory Contact:**

Email: [NewbornScreeningLab@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:NewbornScreeningLab@dshs.state.tx.us)

or call 1-888-963-7111 ext. 7333



**Monthly newborn screening facility report cards:**

Sign up for Texas Newborn Screening Web Application (Neometrics) to access your facility's report card. Find the sign-up forms here:

[dshs.texas.gov/lab/nbsRDSforms.shtm](https://dshs.texas.gov/lab/nbsRDSforms.shtm)

