

THESE TESTS
COULD SAVE YOUR BABY'S LIFE

Newborn Screening Tests



Texas Department of State Health Services
Newborn Screening Program
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NEWBORN SCREENING

WHAT IS A NEWBORN SCREEN?

- A few babies who look healthy at birth have a rare birth defect or disorder.
- The screening tests check to see if your newborn has one.
- If found early, we can help prevent serious problems, such as intellectual/developmental disabilities, illness, or death.

ALL TEXAS BABIES ARE SCREENED FOR THESE DISORDERS:

Biotinidase Deficiency (BIOT)
Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia (CAH)
Congenital Hypothyroidism (CH)
Critical Congenital Heart Disease*
Cystic Fibrosis (CF)
Galactosemia (GALT)
Homocystinuria (HCY)
Maple Syrup Urine Disease (MSUD)
Medium Chain Acyl-CoA Dehydrogenase (MCAD) Deficiency
Newborn Hearing Screening*
Other Fatty Acid Oxidation (FAO) Disorders
Organic Acid (OA) Disorders
Phenylketonuria (PKU)
Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID)
Sickle Cell Disease (SCD)
Tyrosinemia (TYR I, II, III)
Urea Cycle Disorders (UCD)

HOW WAS MY BABY TESTED?

The test was done using drops of blood taken from your baby's heel 1 to 2 days after birth. A second sample of blood must be taken to test again at 7 to 14 days of age in your doctor's office or clinic.

BUT WE'VE NEVER HAD ANY BIRTH DEFECTS IN OUR FAMILY...

- Many of the babies born with these problems are from healthy families.
- The chances are good that your child does NOT have one since these disorders are not very common.
- By testing your baby, we can find out if he or she has a disorder and start early treatment.

*A point-of-service screen is not a bloodspot screen. It is a test administered at the hospital.

I RECEIVED A LETTER FROM THE "FOLLOW-UP PROGRAM." WHAT IS THAT?

- The Follow-up Program helps your baby receive the care he or she may need if a screen result is unusual.
- First, the Program contacts your doctor or clinic about doing more testing.
- When you receive notice to bring your baby in for more tests, please do so *quickly*.
- As part of the Program, public health nurses and social workers can help families with follow-up steps.
- The Follow-up Program also helps make sure your child's health is checked on a regular basis.
- If you move to a new address or change your phone number, be sure to tell your doctor or clinic so you can be reached for check-ups.

IF MY BABY HAS ONE OF THESE DISORDERS, CAN IT BE CURED?

- We can't cure these disorders. But early treatment may prevent or control serious health problems.
- Doctors who specialize in these disorders are available to assist doctors with diagnosis and treatment of babies with a disorder. Your doctor might send you to one of these specialists.

