Questions and Answers

How do I find out about my baby's newborn screening results?

Results are available from your baby's primary care provider. Ask about your baby's results at his/her well child visit.

<u>Does my baby need the screening if there</u> is no family history of these disorders?

YES. Most children who have disorders that have been detected by newborn screening DO NOT have a family history of genetic or metabolic disorders, and often seem healthy at birth.

Is a second screen necessary?

It is highly recommended that a second screen be performed to detect conditions that might not show up on the first screen due to several factors.

If the screen is abnormal, does that mean my baby has the disease?

Not necessarily. Further testing and evaluation by a specialist is required to determine if the disease is present. Your primary care provider will refer your baby to a specialist if necessary.

For more detailed information on Newborn Metabolic Screening please visit: www.marchofdimes.com



Things To Discuss With Your Doctor:

IF YOU ARE DISCHARGED EARLY:

If your baby goes home from the hospital before they are 24 hours old, his/her newborn screen should be repeated.

SECOND NEWBORN SCREEN:

It is highly recommended that you bring your baby to the hospital or doctor's office for a repeat (2nd) screen before your baby is two weeks old.



Public Health Division Maternal and Child Health 6101 Yellowstone Road, Suite 420 Cheyenne, WY 82002 Phone: 307-777-6921 Fax: 307-777-8687 Toll Free: 1-800-438-5795

Website: www.health.wyo.gov or E-mail: mchinfo@wyo.gov

This publication is available in an alternative format by request.

A healthy first step for you and your baby





Things you should know about the Newborn Screening Program

What?

Newborn screening is a blood test to see if your baby has a metabolic or genetic disorder.

Why?

Wyoming State Law (W.S.35-4-801 and W.S.35-4-802) requires screening of ALL newborns for these conditions, unless parents sign a waiver opting out.



When?

Soon after birth (between 24 and 72 hours), your baby will be screened for hearing loss and many rare conditions.

If these diseases are diagnosed and treated early, serious problems may be prevented.

How?

A few drops of blood from your baby's heel will be placed on the screening card and sent to the lab for diagnosis. Results will be sent to your child's Doctor.

For more information about Newborn Screening, ask your Doctor or visit: www.marchofdimes.com

Helpful Information for Parents

- It is important that babies are screened, even if they look healthy, because some medical conditions cannot be seen by just looking at the baby.
- Risks of not screening a newborn can be serious, although rare. Early diagnosis and treatment can make the difference between lifelong disabilities and healthy development.
- Do not be alarmed if results come back abnormal. The initial screening tests give only preliminary information that must be followed up by more precise testing.
- Parents can decline having their baby screened by completing the Consent Waiver form at the hospital.



What can be detected by the Newborn Screen?

Here is a description of some of the conditions and available treatments included in the Newborn Screen:

PKU (Phenylketonuria): Babies with this disorder have problems digesting phenylalanine, which is found in almost all food. If detected early, intellectual disability may be prevented by feeding the baby a special diet.

<u>Hypothyroidism:</u> Babies with this disorder have a hormone deficiency that slows growth and brain development. If detected early, treatment with oral doses of the hormone can allow for normal development.

<u>Sickle Cell Anemia:</u> Babies with this inherited blood disease can be treated to prevent pain and organ damage.

Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia (CAH):

Babies who have this group of disorders are lacking certain hormones. Treatment with the missing hormones slows the disease and can prevent organ damage and even death.

<u>Galactosemia:</u> Babies with this disorder can not digest milk sugar (galactose). Prompt treatment with the right diet can prevent blindness, intellectual disability and death.