



# NEWBORN

## Screening

the first step to a diagnosis

### **Q: What is Newborn Screening?**

A: Newborn screening is a public health service that consists of three separate screens, including blood spot, hearing and heart. These screening tests check a baby for serious, but rare conditions.

### **Q: Who gets a newborn screen test?**

A: Every baby born in Oklahoma has a newborn screen shortly after birth.

### **Q: What conditions are screened on the newborn screen?**

A: The Oklahoma NBS program screens for over 50 different conditions. A full list of conditions on the Oklahoma newborn screening panel can be found on our website: [Oklahoma.gov/health/newbornscreening](http://Oklahoma.gov/health/newbornscreening).

### **Q: How can I get my baby's newborn screen blood spot test result?**

- A:
1. Ensure that the birthing facility has the best contact information to reach you and your baby's planned follow-up health care provider, on file.
  2. Ask for the test results during your baby's first doctor visit or call the Oklahoma State Department of Health Newborn Screening Program at 405-426-8310.

**Q: What happens if my baby's newborn screen blood spot results are not normal?**

A: Do not panic. Screen test results can be abnormal for a variety of reasons, and this does not necessarily mean your baby has the disorder. However, it does mean that a baby will need additional testing. The additional testing can be a repeat screen or diagnostic testing. Your baby's healthcare provider will ensure the correct tests are completed.

## Diagnosis vs Screening



**Q: What is the difference between a screening test and a diagnostic test?**

A: Screening results, by themselves, cannot determine the presence or absence of a disorder. They are a part of the puzzle healthcare providers can use to determine a diagnosis.

Diagnostic testing refers to the combination of signs, symptoms, and other test results that allow the healthcare provider to confirm the presence or absence of a condition.

**Q: Where can I get more information about newborn screening?**

A: We recommend talking to your baby's healthcare provider or visiting the following websites for more information:  
[Oklahoma.gov/health/newbornscreening](http://Oklahoma.gov/health/newbornscreening)  
[babysfirsttest.org](http://babysfirsttest.org)  
[www.marchofdimes.org/baby/newborn-screening-tests-for-your-baby.aspx](http://www.marchofdimes.org/baby/newborn-screening-tests-for-your-baby.aspx)

**Q: Would you like to meet with a family who has been in a similar situation with an abnormal newborn screen result?**

A: The Oklahoma Family Network can help. Visit their website, [Oklahomafamilynetwork.org/](http://Oklahomafamilynetwork.org/) or give them a call 405-271-5072.

