



Tests that can protect your new baby's health

MONTANA ♥ .....  
Newborn Screening

# Why does my baby need newborn screening tests?

- ♥ Most babies are healthy when they are born.
- ♥ Montana tests all babies because a few babies look healthy, but have rare health problems.
- ♥ If we can find these problems early, we can help prevent serious outcomes like brain damage or death.

# How will my baby be tested?

- ♥ A few drops (1/8 tsp) of blood will be safely collected from your baby's heel on a special card. This will usually happen before you take your new baby home from the hospital, or performed by your midwife.
- ♥ The Public Health Laboratory receives the blood cards, has the testing done, and reports the results to your health care provider.

# How will I get the screening test results?

- ♥ Your baby's primary care provider or midwife will notify you of test results if there is a problem.
- ♥ Ask about screening results when you take your baby to your health care provider.



# Your Baby's Newborn Screen

What disorders can be detected?	How is the baby affected?	What may happen if not treated?	How often does this occur?	How is it treated?
<b>Congenital Hypothyroidism</b>	Baby doesn't produce enough thyroid hormone	Baby grows poorly and has brain damage	One in 3,000 births	Medicine to replace thyroid hormone
<b>Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia</b>	Baby produces adrenal hormones incorrectly	Baby may be very sick and may die	One in 12,000 births	Medicine to regulate hormones
<b>Galactosemia</b>	Baby cannot safely digest a sugar found in milk	Baby has brain and organ damage, may die	One in 60,000 births	Special diet without milk sugar
<b>Hemoglobinopathies (including Sickle Cell Anemia)</b>	Baby's blood cells may clump, block vessels, deprive cells of oxygen	Baby may have frequent infections, anemia, and a painful cry	One in 10,000 births One in 400 of African ancestry	Antibiotics, immunization, preventive care
<b>Cystic Fibrosis</b>	Mucus builds up in baby's lungs and elsewhere	Baby has poor growth and frequent infections	One in 2,500 births (European ancestry)	Antibiotics and enzymes
<b>Biotinidase Deficiency</b>	Baby is unable to process the essential vitamin biotin	Baby has brain and organ damage, may die	One in 60,000 births	Vitamin supplements
<b>Phenylketonuria (PKU)</b>	Baby is unable to use a building block of protein	Baby has brain damage	One in 10,000 births	Special low protein diet
<b>Maple Syrup Urine Disease</b>	Baby is unable to use the building blocks of protein	Baby has serious disabilities and may die	One in 185,000 births	Special low protein diet
<b>Homocystinuria</b>	Baby is unable to use a building block of protein	Baby may have organ damage and learning problems	One in 300,000 births	Special diet and medication
<b>Tyrosinemia</b>	Baby is unable to use a building block of protein	Baby has liver and kidney damage	One in 100,000 births	Special diet and medication
<b>Citrullinemia/ Arginosuccinic Acidemia</b>	Baby has abnormal protein by-products in body	Baby may have brain damage, seizures, may die	One in 70,000 to 100,000 births	Special diet and medication
<b>Nine Organic Acidemia Disorders</b>	Baby has abnormal protein by-products in body	Baby may be very sick and may die	One in 50,000 births overall	Special diet and medication
<b>Five Fatty Acid Oxidation Disorders</b>	Baby cannot break down fats for energy	Baby may have organ damage and may die	One in 10,000 births overall	Special diet and avoid fasting
<b>Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID)</b>	Baby lacks immune cells to fight infection.	Baby will have recurrent infections, likely will die	One in 60,000 births	Bone marrow or stem cell transplant

## The newborn screen may need to be repeated **if...**

- ♥ The sample was collected before 24 hours or was too small to complete testing.
- ♥ Your baby was born prematurely.
- ♥ The first test suggested a possible health problem.

## What if my baby needs to be **retested?**

- ♥ If your health care provider says your baby needs a retest, get it done right away.
- ♥ Make sure your baby's provider knows how to contact you.
- ♥ If the repeat test is abnormal, your baby's provider will tell you what to do next.

Each year about 10 babies born in Montana have a newborn screening disorder detected

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If you have questions about your baby's hearing or this list, talk with your baby's health professional.

## Where can I get more information?

Visit [newbornscreening.mt.gov](http://newbornscreening.mt.gov) or call 800-762-9891



This project is funded, in part or in whole, under a contract with the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Public Health and Safety Division. The statements herein do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Department.