



What happens to the remaining blood spots and results after screening?

Following newborn screening, test results and any leftover blood spots are stored to allow for follow-up testing, if needed. Stored blood spots and test results are also used for general program operations, such as making sure screening is accurate, improving test methods, and developing new newborn screening tests. They are not used for research or public health studies without the parent's written informed consent.

Parents have options regarding the storage of their child's blood spots and test results. You may request that your child's blood spots and results be destroyed, or you may request to obtain the blood spots through your child's primary care provider at any time. You may also choose to allow your child's blood spots and results to be used for public health studies or research. Ask your provider or visit the Newborn Screening Program website for forms and instructions on how to request these options and for the most up-to-date storage and use practices.

When will I get my baby's results?

Your baby's hearing and pulse oximetry screen results will be available on the same day of screening. Be sure to ask your birth provider or the person performing the screen to discuss them with you.

The blood spot screening process takes a few days, but your baby's primary care provider will contact you as soon as possible if the results suggest a problem. The first well-child visit is also a good time to talk to your baby's primary care provider about results.

What personal information is written on the screening card and sent to the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)?

The newborn screening card that is sent to MDH for testing contains only the information about mom and baby that will help staff interpret test results and contact your baby's primary care provider if more testing or follow-up is needed. This includes, but is not limited to, baby's name, date of birth, time of birth, mom's name, and the name of baby's primary care provider or clinic.

Can I refuse screening for my baby?

Yes. If you do not want your baby screened, you must complete the *Parental Refusal of Newborn Screening* form. You can ask your birth provider for a copy of the form or download it from the Newborn Screening Program website. You may also choose to arrange for blood spot screening through a private laboratory.

For more information on newborn screening:

Minnesota Newborn Screening

www.health.state.mn.us/newbornscreening

MN Early Hearing Detection & Intervention Program

www.improveehdi.org/mn

Save Babies Through Screening Foundation

www.savebabies.org

Baby's First Test

www.babysfirsttest.org

