

Newborn Screening

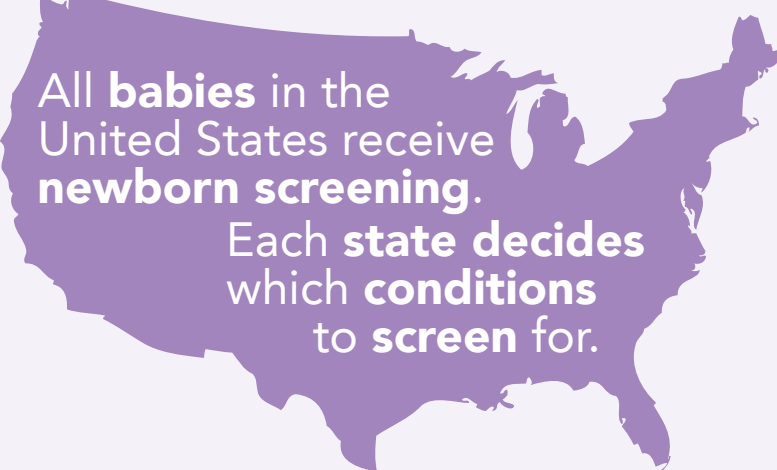
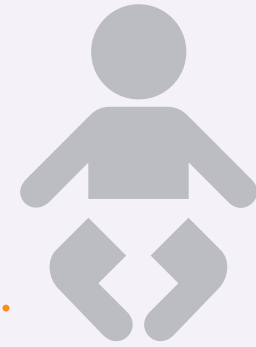
1

Newborn screening: Blood screen

Three simple screens



A baby may **look healthy** but be **born** with a **serious health condition**.



Helps identify **inherited, endocrine and metabolic** conditions.



Blood screen process



Before a baby leaves the hospital, a health care provider pricks the baby's heel to get a few drops of blood. The blood drops are placed and dried on a special paper.

This should happen **within 48 hours** of a baby's birth.



Within **24 hours** of the heel stick, the paper with blood drops should be sent to a newborn screening lab for testing.



Within **5 days** of birth, results for **time-critical conditions** should be shared with the baby's provider.

Within **7 days** of birth, results for all other conditions should be shared with the baby's provider.



All newborn screening results should be reported to the baby's provider within 7 days of birth.

Positive screen results require further testing and immediate **follow-up**.

Negative screen:

- ✓ Provider is notified.
- ✓ Provider should follow up with baby's family.
- ✓ If parents don't hear about results, **call and ask** the provider.

Positive screen:

- ✓ Provider is notified.
- ✓ Provider follows up with baby's family for **further testing**.
- ✓ **Diagnostic tests** must be done **immediately** to confirm results.
- ✓ **Intervention** should begin as soon as possible.



newsteps.org

marchofdimes.org

March of Dimes materials are for information purposes only and are not to be used as medical advice. Always seek medical advice from your health care provider. Our materials reflect current scientific recommendations at time of publication. Check marchofdimes.org for updated information. © 2016 March of Dimes Foundation.

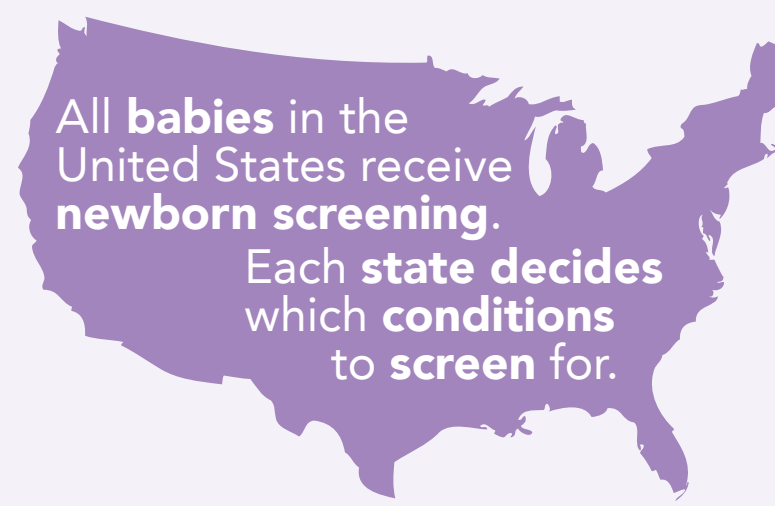
2

Newborn screening: Hearing screen

Three simple screens



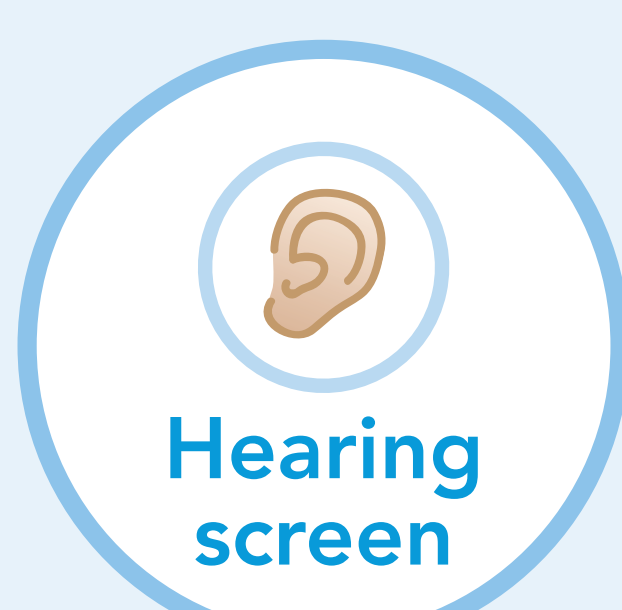
A baby may **look healthy** but be **born** with a **hearing problem**.



Helps identify babies at risk for **hearing loss**. If found early, babies can be **referred** for additional testing.



Hearing screen process



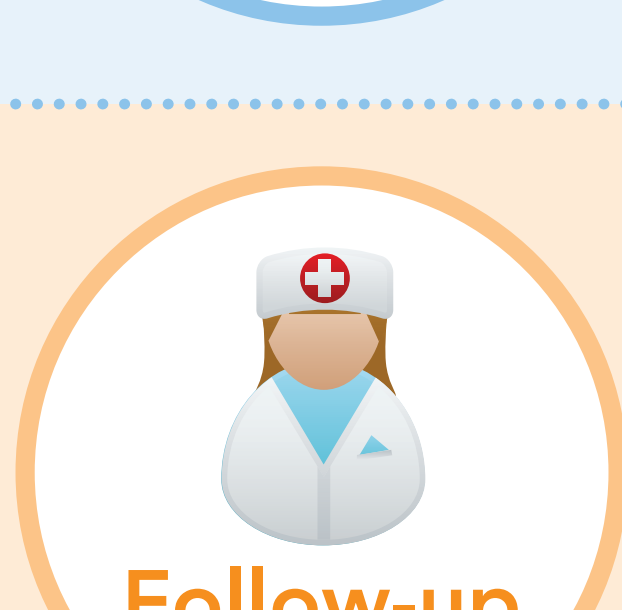
Before a baby leaves the hospital, a health care provider places a **soft earphone** in the baby's ear that plays sounds.

This checks how the baby's ear and brain respond to sound.



If there are signs of hearing loss in one or both ears, the baby needs **more tests**.

The baby needs to be tested at **least 2 more times** in the first month after birth.



All hearing screening results should be reported to the baby's provider.

Positive screen:

- ✓ Provider should follow up with the **baby's family**.
- ✓ Provider refers the baby to a **pediatric audiologist** to evaluate the baby for **permanent hearing loss** before the **baby is 3 months old**.
- ✓ If the baby has hearing loss, provider refers the baby to an **early intervention program** before the baby is **6 months old**.

Negative screen:

- ✓ Baby is released from the hospital and **no additional testing** is needed.



newsteps.org

marchofdimes.org

March of Dimes materials are for information purposes only and are not to be used as medical advice. Always seek medical advice from your health care provider. Our materials reflect current scientific recommendations at time of publication. Check marchofdimes.org for updated information. © 2016 March of Dimes Foundation.

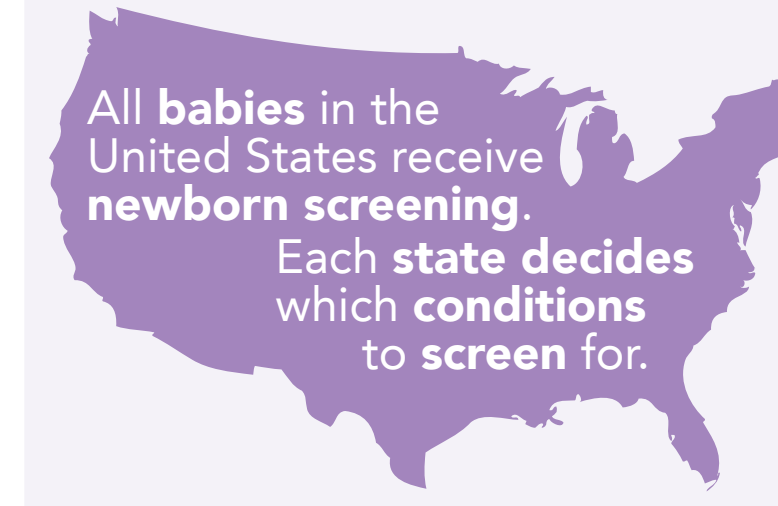
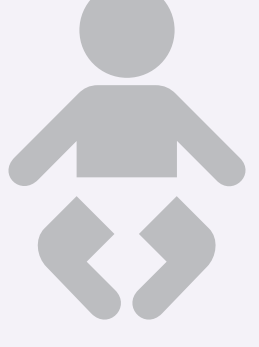
3

Newborn screening: Heart screen

Three simple screens



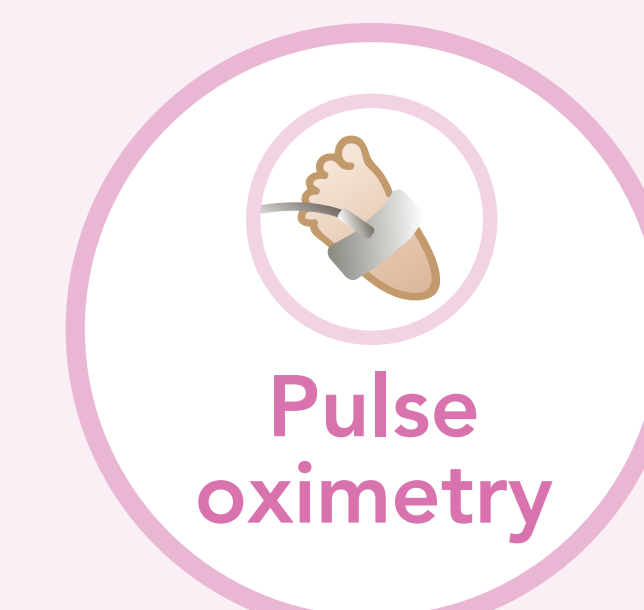
A baby may **look healthy** but be **born** with a **serious heart condition**.



Helps identify conditions called **critical congenital heart disease (CCHD)**.



Heart screen process



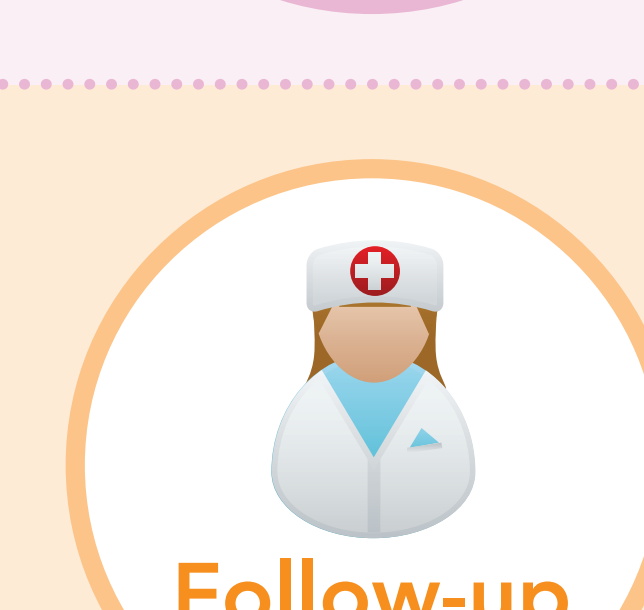
Within **48 hours** of a baby's birth, a health care provider places a **sensor** on the baby's hand and foot for a few minutes.

This test is called **pulse oximetry**. It checks the amount of oxygen in the baby's blood.

Low blood oxygen may be a sign of a **heart condition**.



If the baby has **low levels of blood oxygen**: Test again 1 and 2 hours after the first test.



All heart screening results should be reported to the baby's provider.

Positive screen:

- ✓ Provider is notified.
- ✓ Provider follows up with baby's family and refers the baby immediately to a **pediatric cardiologist** for:
 - ✓ More testing, like an **echocardiogram**
 - ✓ **Surgery**, if needed, to repair a heart condition

Negative screen:

- ✓ Baby is released from the hospital and **no additional testing** is needed.



newsteps.org

marchofdimes.org

March of Dimes materials are for information purposes only and are not to be used as medical advice. Always seek medical advice from your health care provider. Our materials reflect current scientific recommendations at time of publication. Check marchofdimes.org for updated information. © 2016 March of Dimes Foundation.

This resource was developed by funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant number U22MC24078 for \$850,000.

www.newsteps.org

