

# Iowa Newborn Screening Program

The goal of newborn screening is to identify at risk babies before the onset of symptoms to reduce chance of disability, morbidity and mortality. Newborn screens should be collected and sent to the newborn screening lab as soon as possible. We need your help to ensure that **ALL** babies are being screened!

## Your role as a midwife:

- Understand newborn screening is a screening tool, not a diagnostic test.
- Know which disorders are on the newborn screening panel in Iowa.
- Educate parents on newborn screening prior to collecting a newborn screen.
- Ensure all babies are screened at 24-48 hours of life. Every hour counts for time critical conditions!
- Ship samples to the State Hygienic Laboratory in Ankeny, IA within 24 hours if possible.
- Follow newborn screening recommendations in a timely manner.
- Respond to any follow-up phone calls from the University of Iowa Children's Hospital. You can reach them at (866) 890-5965.
- Contact the newborn screening program with any questions.

Filling out the newborn screening form

Accurately  
Completely  
Legibly

could be a matter of life and death!

In the event of a positive screening test, the information you provide is essential to locate the baby and a provider!

**It's not just a form...It's a baby.**

- The newborn screen is collected at 24-48 hours of life.
- After the screen the card must dry horizontal for at least 3 hours.
- After the card is dry samples can be picked up by the courier each day by contacting them at (515) 289-9990 or <http://www.cdsofiowa.com/contactus.html>
  - If you leave the babies' house before the specimen has dried for 3 hours the parents could mail the screening card overnight to the State Hygienic Lab to ensure it is received. Please contact the State Hygienic Lab with questions.

## Resources:

- Iowa Newborn Screening Brochure
- Newborn Screening Collection Manual
- Staff at IDPH and State Hygienic Lab
- <https://idph.iowa.gov/newborn-screening>



To order forms or collection supplies contact the State Hygienic Laboratory at (515) 725-1630

If parents, providers or the public have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the Iowa Newborn Screening Program at (866) 890-5965 or [lowanewbornscreening@uiowa.edu](mailto:lowanewbornscreening@uiowa.edu)

