

Checklist

- ✓ Before leaving the birthing center please check with the staff to make sure that all newborn screenings are complete.
- ✓ When your newborn is 1- 2 weeks old, they should see a medical provider for a “well-child check-up”.
- ✓ All babies should get a second newborn blood spot screening test when they are 1 - 2 weeks old, even if the first test is normal.



COLORADO
Newborn Screening Program

Division of Disease Control and
Public Health Response

..CONTACT US..

cdphe.colorado.gov/newborn-blood-spot-screening

Newborn Blood Spot Screening
(303) 692-3675

Newborn Hearing Screening
(303) 692-2603

**Colorado Responds to Children with
Special Needs (CRCSN) Program**
(303) 692-2621

..RESOURCES..

babysfirsttest.org
marchofdimes.com
newbornscreening.info



Colorado Newborn Screening Program



Blood Spot Screening

WHAT

- A newborn blood spot screening test is a simple and safe blood test which screens for serious conditions that can be treated when found early.
- In Colorado, all babies will be tested unless parents request to opt out of testing.

WHY

- Newborn babies who have these conditions look healthy, but may get very sick or die within just a few days or weeks of birth.
- The newborn screening test helps detect these conditions early for babies to receive the proper medical treatment before they become ill.
- With early treatment most babies live a healthy life.

HOW

- A few drops of blood are taken from your baby's heel and soaked onto a special paper.
- The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environmental Laboratory completes the screening using the dried blood spots.
- The results are sent to the hospital or the medical provider.



Hearing Screening

WHAT

- Most newborns are healthy however, one out of every 500 babies is deaf or hard of hearing.
- Your baby's ability to hear impacts their development of language even before your baby is able to speak.

WHY

- It is important to screen babies before they are one month old so they can benefit from different ways to learn language.

HOW

- The hearing screen is performed with a special machine that will detect if your baby responds to sounds.
- The test is simple and does not hurt - many babies sleep through it.
- If the hearing screening is abnormal, a follow up test will be performed.



Pulse Oximetry Screening



WHAT

- Low blood oxygen levels in newborns may indicate heart problems.
- Pulse oximetry screening checks for life-threatening heart defects known as critical congenital heart disease (CCHD).

WHY

- If CCHD is detected early it can be treated with surgery or other medical interventions.
- Pulse oximetry is a simple test that takes only a couple of minutes to measure how much oxygen is in a newborn's blood.

HOW

- A pulse oximetry is a painless sensor placed on the baby's skin so a machine called a pulse oximeter can measure blood oxygen levels.
- The test is performed after the baby is 24 hours old and before he or she leaves the newborn nursery.
- As of January 1, 2016 all newborns born in a Colorado facility below an elevation of 7,000 feet are required to be screened.
- Results are reported to the Colorado Responds to Children with Special Needs (CRCSN) program.