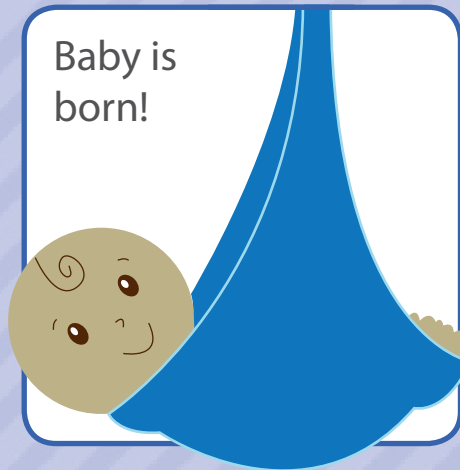


# MICHIGAN

## Newborn Screening

### How does it work?



24-36 hours  
after birth



Three tests are  
done to check  
your baby's  
health:



Hearing screening



Heart screening



Blood spot screening

Blood spot screening  
takes a few days. Your  
baby's dried blood spots  
are sent to the Michigan  
Department of Health  
and Human Services  
(MDHHS) lab for  
testing.



Hearing screening  
and heart screening  
take only a few  
minutes. Ask for your  
baby's results when  
the tests are done.



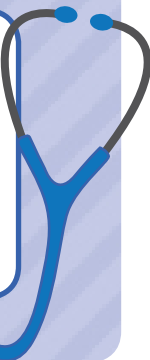
At the lab, blood spots  
are punched into smaller  
circles for each of the  
tests. Your baby is tested  
for more than 50 health  
problems.



**Negative Results:** If everything looks ok,  
the results are sent to your baby's doctor. Ask  
your baby's doctor for the results!



**Positive Results:** If there might be a problem,  
your baby's doctor will be notified. Screening  
can only tell us if a baby **might** have a health  
problem. We won't know for sure until the  
doctor does more tests. Your baby's doctor will  
talk to you about what needs to happen next.



# After Newborn Screening

## What happens to leftover blood spots?

Parents can choose what happens with the leftover blood spots.



Each spot is smaller than the size of a dime.

**Option A:** The blood spots can go into safe storage, and they also can be used for research through the Michigan BioTrust for Health to help improve the public's health. To choose this option, select the "yes" option and sign the consent form. Blood spots will **never** be used for research unless you give permission.

**Option B:** The blood spots can go into safe storage and will not be used for research. To choose this option, select the "no" option and sign the consent form.

You can also ask MDHHS to destroy the blood spots. To choose this option, you have to fill out a directive request form. If you choose this option, blood spots will no longer be available for testing if you or your baby's doctor need them. To find this form, please visit [Michigan.gov/BioTrust](http://Michigan.gov/BioTrust) or call 866-673-9939.

If you choose **Option A** or **Option B**, you can change your mind and choose a different option at any time. Just contact MDHHS.



One blood spot is stored by the state lab only for your personal use, if needed.

Here are some reasons why it is important to keep leftover blood spots.

**Testing Improvement:** To make sure we find babies with possible health problems, we need to make sure that our tests and equipment are working the way they should. This process is called quality control or assurance. Permission is not needed to use blood spots for this process.

**Family Needs:** Some families ask for blood spots later to do testing if their child gets sick. Looking at blood spots can help give clues about whether something at or before birth made the child sick.

**Research on blood spots:** When permission is given (**Option A**), blood spots can be used for research to improve the public's health. All blood spots are de-identified, meaning the baby's name, date of birth, or any other directly identifying information is not attached to the blood spots.



Want to know more?

Newborn Screening Program  
Call us: 866-673-9939

For questions about leftover blood spots  
Email: [BioTrust@Michigan.gov](mailto:BioTrust@Michigan.gov)  
Visit: [Michigan.gov/BioTrust](http://Michigan.gov/BioTrust)

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services will not exclude from participation in, deny benefits of, or discriminate against any individual or group because of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, color, height, weight, marital status, partisan considerations, or a disability or genetic information that is unrelated to the person's eligibility.

\*infographic adapted from Minnesota Newborn Screening Program

MDHHS-Pub-1234 (11-21)

