

# Newborn Screening

## How does it work in Michigan?

Scan the QR code for a video version of the Newborn Screening roadmap.



Baby is born!



Three tests are done to check your baby's health 24-36 hours after birth:

-  Hearing screening
-  Heart screening
-  Blood spot screening

### Heart screening and hearing screening

These take only a few minutes. Ask for your baby's results when the tests are done.



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



### Blood spot screening



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

### Negative Results

If your baby's blood test did not show any signs of these health problems, 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.





Each spot is smaller than the size of a dime.

# After Newborn Screening

## What happens to leftover blood spots?

After screening, blood spots are safely stored for up to 100 years. Parents can choose what happens with leftover blood spots.

### Option A – Storage

The blood spots can go into safe storage and may be used to improve the newborn screening program. They will not be used for research. To choose this option, select **"no"** and sign the Michigan BioTrust for Health consent form provided by your birthing attendant.

### Option B – Storage and Research

The blood spots can go into safe storage, and they also can be used for de-identified research through the Michigan BioTrust for Health to improve the public's health.

To choose this option, select the **"yes"** option and sign the consent form provided by your birthing attendant. Blood spots will **never** be used for research unless you give permission.



### Option C – Destroy or Return

The leftover blood spots can be destroyed after testing is complete or returned to you. To choose this option, you will need to fill out an MDHHS directive or personal use request form. If you choose this option, blood spots destroyed or returned may no longer be available for testing if you or your baby's doctor need them.

To find these forms, please visit **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 at 866-673-9939.*

## Why is it important for MDHHS to store leftover blood spots?



**Testing Improvements** - To find babies with possible health problems, we need to make sure our tests and equipment are working the way they should. This process is called quality control and 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.



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

**Questions?** Scan the QR code to learn more about your options!

**Newborn Screening Program:** For information, email [NewbornScreening@michigan.gov](mailto:NewbornScreening@michigan.gov), call 866-673-9939 or visit [Michigan.gov/NewbornScreening](http://Michigan.gov/NewbornScreening).

**BioTrust for Health:** For information, email [BioTrust@michigan.gov](mailto:BioTrust@michigan.gov) or visit [Michigan.gov/BioTrust](http://Michigan.gov/BioTrust).



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\*Infographic adapted from Minnesota Newborn Screening Program.

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