

Newborn Screening

CHILD AND TEEN CHECKUPS (C&TC) FACT SHEET FOR PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS

C&TC Requirements

General

Primary care providers are required to review each infant's newborn screening results and follow all recommendations made by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Newborn Screening (NBS) program regarding follow-up.

Personnel

A licensed health care provider (physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant) should review results and ensure follow up all requested follow-up is completed.

Documentation

Obtain copies of all newborn screening results from the hospital or electronically through the [MDH portal \(www.nbsreporting.health.mn.gov\)](http://www.nbsreporting.health.mn.gov) and place in child's medical record. If results are not available from hospital, contact the NBS staff at 1-800-664-7772. Document actions that are taken based on screening results.

For documentation examples, refer to the [C&TC Documentation Forms for Providers and Clinics \(www.dhs.state.mn.us\)](http://www.dhs.state.mn.us).

Procedure

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Newborn Screening (NBS) program screens for over 60 disorders.

- Professionals who care for newborns are required to make newborn screening available for every Minnesota birth, but parents may opt out of all or part of newborn screening ([Minnesota Statute 144.125 \(www.revisor.mn.gov\)](http://www.revisor.mn.gov)). Hearing and pulse oximetry screening results

should be available the day the screen is performed.

- Blood spot screening results are returned to the submitting provider (typically the hospital) and should be available from MDH within three to seven days of birth.
- Review all screening results and share those results with the infant's parent(s), preferably at the first well-child visit.

Follow-up

Ensure recommended follow-up has been pursued. Most screening results will be normal and no additional follow-up will be needed. However, some results may require additional screening and/or testing.

Blood Spot Screening:

- If a child has an abnormal blood spot screen requiring clinical action, MDH contacts the provider identified on the screening card. If you have not heard from MDH about an abnormal result on a patient's report, call 651-201-3548 for guidance.
- See MDH's [Newborn Screening Information for Providers: Blood Spot Screening Results \(www.health.state.mn.us\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us) for additional descriptions of possible results and follow-up practices.

Hearing Screening:

- If the child did not pass their hearing screening, make sure a diagnostic audiology evaluation occurs before three months of age.
- Refer to MDH's [Newborn Screening Information for Providers: Hearing Screening for Primary Care Providers \(www.health.state.mn.us\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us) for more details.

Pulse Oximetry Screening:

- If the child did not pass the pulse oximetry screen, review in-hospital evaluation and recommendations for follow-up.

Importance of Screening

If left untreated, disorders identified on the newborn screen can lead to illness, physical and/or intellectual disabilities, or death. Early identification and intervention can help prevent most health problems caused by the disorders on the newborn screening panel (CDC, 2012).

Note

Newborn screening is not diagnostic. False positive and false negative results may occur. Newborn screening should not replace diagnostic testing in any circumstances.

Professional Recommendations

American Academy of Pediatrics

The AAP recommends newborn screening and appropriate follow-up as a part of routine well childcare, as outlined in [Recommendations for Preventive Pediatric Health Care](#) (www.aap.org).

Resources

Minnesota Department of Human Services

- [C&TC Schedule of Age-Related Screening Standards](#) (www.dhs.state.mn.us)
- [Minnesota Health Care Programs \(MHCP\) Provider Manual - C&TC Section](#) (www.dhs.state.mn.us)

Minnesota Department of Health

- [Child and Teen Checkups \(C&TC\)](#) (www.health.state.mn.us)
- [MinneStories](#) (www.health.state.mn.us)

- [Newborn Screening Program](#) (www.health.state.mn.us)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- [Newborn Screening](#) (www.cdc.gov)

References

CDC. (2012, June 1). *CDC Grand Rounds: Newborn Screening and Improved Outcomes*. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6121a2.htm>

For More Information

The Child and Teen Checkups (C&TC) program is administered through a partnership between the Minnesota Department of Human Services and the Minnesota Department of Health.

For questions about this fact sheet or to obtain this information in a different format, call 651-201-3760 or email health.childteencheckups@state.mn.us.

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