

TOP 10 REASONS

WHY
NEWBORN SCREENING
IS IMPORTANT FOR MY BABY?





Congratulations on your journey towards parenthood!

You might be getting ready for the arrival of your newborn or must be a new mom already holding your little one. We request you to read through this simple booklet which will update you with proven facts that would ensure you don't miss out on some simple yet essential steps for your newborn.

Your baby being the beginning of all new things, you would want to give a healthy start for a long life. Newborn Screening is a comprehensive panel of tests done for your baby to detect presence of over 100+ medical conditions that can be hidden at birth which could be harmful for your baby's growth.

We will be happy to help you with answers for your queries and feel free to contact us at **1800 419 5533 or SMS 'BABYSHIELD' 53456**

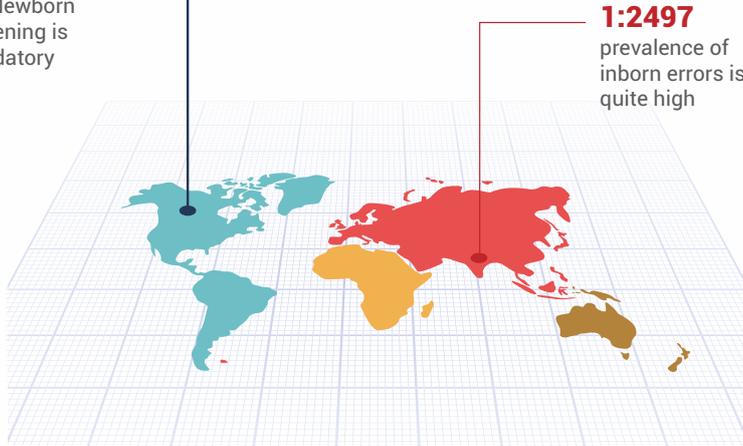
Wishing you a happy parenting!



WHY NEWBORN SCREENING IS BENEFICIAL

Much Lesser Incidence

But Newborn Screening is mandatory



1

Why is Newborn Screening important for a baby?

In India, the prevalence of certain birth conditions is quite high which accounts to 1:2497¹ live births, hence Newborn Screening should be considered for every baby in India. In the US though the incidence is much lesser, Newborn Screening is mandatory for every baby at birth.

2

Is Newborn screening a new test, because we don't remember doing it for other kids in the family?

Newborn Screening has been in practice over 50² years, since the development of screening for metabolic disorder called Phenylketonuria [PKU] in 1960. With increasing incidence of metabolic errors it is gaining importance amidst doctors and parents. Also, with growing advancements in healthcare and technology Newborn Screening has become more accessible.

1960

PKU screening

Growing incidences of metabolic errors

Growing advances in healthcare technology

Newborn screening is more accessible

TODAY

3

What are the most common disorders which can be detected through Newborn Screening?



INDIA

G6PD deficiency 2-7.8%

Congenital Hypothyroidism 2.1:1000

In India, G6PD deficiency with 2-7.8%⁴ happens to be the most common condition. Another common condition that is seen in India is Congenital Hypothyroidism (CH)[#] also with an incidence of 2.1/1000 babies born.

⁴G6PD is an enzyme in the baby's blood that is important for the cell function. G6PD helps red blood cells function normally and deficiency could lead to anemia of the child.

[#]Congenital hypothyroidism is inadequate thyroid hormone production in newborn infants. It can occur because of an anatomic defect in the gland, an inborn error of thyroid metabolism, or iodine deficiency.

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Is the newborn screening safe and painless for my baby?

Newborn Screening is absolutely safe. It is relatively painless and harmless for baby.

It is done using only few drops of blood collected from a simple heel prick and from your baby's urine sample. It is recommended that breastfeeding intervention is commenced 5 minutes before the blood collection process and extended till the end of recovery to ease out any pain⁶

SAMPLES



Heel prick blood sample



Baby's urine sample

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Can Newborn Screening help in saving the baby's life?

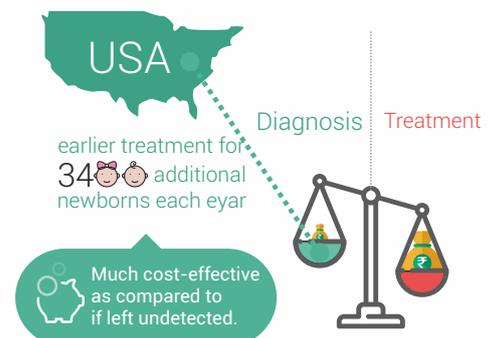
- Researchers claim that Newborn Screening saves the life of babies since it detects a treatable condition in 1:300¹ babies. Treating these conditions early can protect infants from irreversible damages like mental retardation, autism and even sudden death.
- A study at AIIMS reveals, Inborn Errors of Metabolism [IEM] collectively represent an important cause of morbidity and death in the neonatal period. Newborn Screening can categorize the possible IEM and improve survival rate⁷



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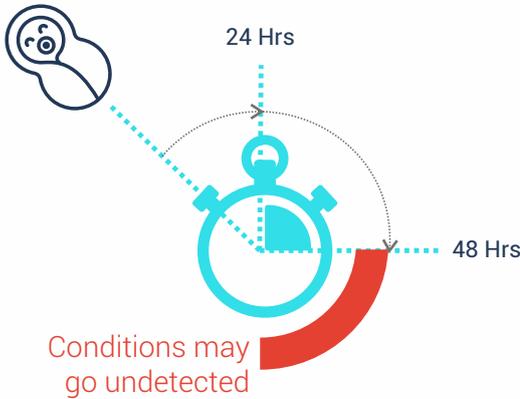
Is Newborn Screening affordable?

Newborn Screening doesn't cost much. It can be afforded by any parent to ensure that their baby is healthy at birth. If such conditions are not identified earlier, the cost of treatment could be much higher with parents undergoing physical & mental stress. In the US alone routine Newborn Screening panel has led to earlier treatment for at least 3400⁸ additional newborns each year and thereby proven to be much cost-effective⁹ as compared to if left undetected.

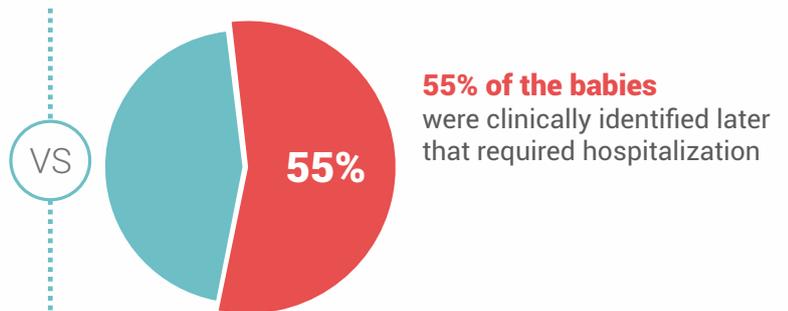
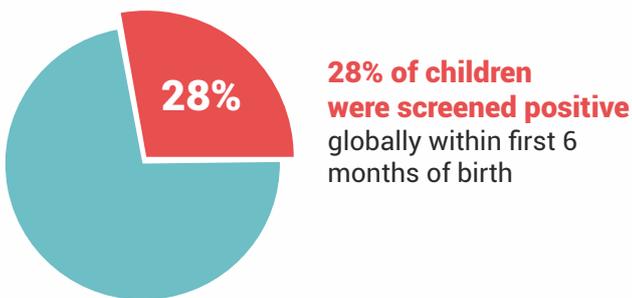


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When do you think is the right time to do Newborn Screening Test?



- The blood test is generally performed when a baby is 24 to 48 hours after birth¹⁰. This timing is important because studies show that certain conditions may go undetected if the blood sample is taken after 48 hours of birth
- Researchers say that globally within first 6 months of birth, 28% of children were screened positive compared to 55% of the babies who were clinically identified later that required hospitalization¹⁰



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Has the advent of such screening test brought an impact on the society as a whole?

Research indicates that if Prenatal and Newborn Screening are done on mandatory basis in India, it could reduce the societal burden and the morbidity due to Inborn Errors of Metabolism.¹²

Out of 25 million babies born annually in India, 800,000 infants suffer from congenital malformation and over 360,800 babies are detected with other metabolic disorders.^{11,13}



25 million babies
are born annually

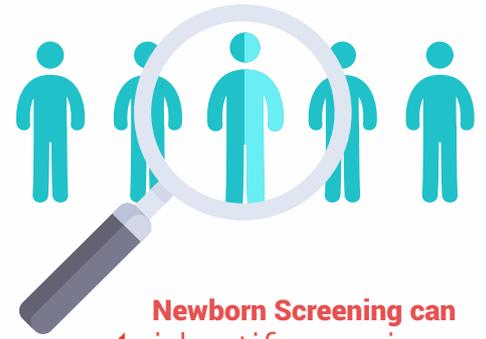
8,00,000 infants
suffer from congenital malformation

3,60,800 infants
are detected with metabolic disorders

9

What are the additional benefits of choosing Newborn Screening?

- Although Newborn screening tests are designed to detect infants with metabolic illnesses, certain tests may also identify carriers (i.e: heterozygotes) or individuals with variants who may be clinically asymptomatic. Such information is important for the family because of the identification of "carrier couples."^{14,15}
- A study says that, expanded Newborn Screening may lead to improved health outcomes for affected children and lower parental stress for their parents.¹⁶



◀ Newborn Screening can identify carriers

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Is Newborn Screening a confirmatory test to commence any treatment?

Newborn Screening is only a basic diagnostic tool that alerts and notifies the doctor and the parent that the baby is at a probable risk of a certain condition¹⁸. Additional confirmatory test for positive newborn screening test results is always necessary.



no further tests needed



notification for doctors



confirmatory diagnostic test

Over 50 years this screening has saved countless lives and prevented severe disabilities in children across the world.

Most babies who may have any of these conditions might look absolutely normal at birth hiding away such conditions. BabyShield, powered by LifeCell has initiated this complete panel of Newborn Screening Services.

BabyShield's Tandem Mass Spectrometry (TMS) panel is:

- Based on recommendation from Indian practicing paediatricians
- In adherence to American College of Medical Genetics (ACMG) guidelines that are universally accepted as a screening tool with greater accuracy
- It's a two-tier screening protocol that relies on two samples-screening for first on blood followed by confirming on urine, helps in minimizing false positives

BabyShield has spread its wings Pan-India with 160+ centers to be a complete partner for both mom and baby.

As a caring parent who toils unceasingly towards the well-being of your child, we are sure that BabyShield Newborn Screening is a definite herald of hope to ensure that your baby is given a healthy start right from birth.

Enrol Today & Give your baby a healthy start!



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