



# WHAT PARENTS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT NEWBORN SCREENING



- All newborn babies are required by the State of Tennessee to get tested for rare metabolic disorders.
- Babies with these disorders may look healthy at birth.
- Serious problems can be prevented if we find out about the disorder right away.
- To do the test, a nurse at the hospital will take a few drops of blood from your baby’s heel and send it to the State Laboratory in Nashville for testing.
- Your baby’s doctor and hospital will get a copy of the test results. Ask about the Newborn Screening result when you take your baby to the doctor for a regular checkup.
- Some babies will need to be retested. If your baby needs to be retested, you will be notified. It is very important to get retested quickly. To help in prompt notification, make sure the hospital has:
  - the name of your baby’s doctor
  - your **correct address and phone number**
- You will receive a pamphlet about newborn screening from the nursery before your baby goes home.
- If you have any questions:
  - Talk to your baby’s doctor
  - Visit: [health.state.tn.us/NBS](http://health.state.tn.us/NBS)
  - Contact the Newborn Screening Program (1-855-202-1357)
  - Contact the Genetic Center closest to you:

Memphis	University of Tennessee	901-448-6595
Nashville	Vanderbilt University Medical Center	615-322-7601
Knoxville	University of Tennessee	800-325-3894
Johnson City	East Tennessee State University	423-439-8541
Chattanooga	T.C. Thompson Children’s Hospital	423-778-6112





## WHAT PARENTS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING

- All newborn babies are required by the State of Tennessee to have a test to check for hearing loss.
- The hearing test is to be done before hospital discharge at birth or before the baby is one month old.
- Hearing screening tests look for signs of possible hearing loss. Tests can detect even a mild hearing loss, not just deafness.
- Delays in speech, language and social skills may develop if hearing loss is not identified early.
- The screening test is simple and can be done while your baby is asleep.
- You should get the results of the hearing screening before you leave the hospital.
- Some babies will need to be retested. If your baby needs to have further testing, you will be notified by the hospital and your baby's doctor. Ask your hospital or doctor where to go to obtain more hearing tests. Tests may need to be done by an audiologist or otolaryngologist (hearing professional).
- Hearing screening and follow-up tests are covered by most insurance.
- Follow-up tests need to be completed as soon as possible but no later than 3 months old.
- If you have any questions:
  - Talk to your baby's doctor
  - Visit: [health.state.tn.us/NBS/hearing.htm](http://health.state.tn.us/NBS/hearing.htm)
  - Contact the Newborn Hearing Screening Program 1-855-202-1357
  - Contact the Tennessee Early Intervention System 1-800-852-7157
  - Contact Family Voices Hearing Parent Consultants 1-888-643-7811

