

Whatman®



WHAT IS 1ST STEP NEWBORN SCREENING TEST?

1st Step Newborn Screening is a test ideally done 24 hours AFTER a baby is born (though it can be done later) to identify certain serious but TREATABLE metabolic disorders the baby might have been born with. Metabolic disorders prevent the baby from 'processing' food properly, leading to an accumulation of toxic chemicals in the blood that are harmful to the baby's normal development.

These disorders although rare, can potentially cause mental retardation, physical disabilities and even death, if not diagnosed and treated early. However, if infants tested positive are treated in time, they have an excellent chance of developing normally.

Is this a new test?

Newborn Screening is done in many countries including the US, Australia and Canada. However, the importance of Newborn Screening has not been realized adequately in India due to a lack of knowledge of the benefits of the test. Many babies suffer from the effects of metabolic disorders but since there is no testing, no one ever knows the reasons behind their health issues.

But my baby looks healthy...

Babies with these disorders may look and act like normal, healthy babies. Also, most children who are diagnosed with one of these disorders come from families with no previous history of these conditions. Newborn screening helps your doctor diagnose a serious medical condition prior to your baby showing any symptoms.

How is the test done?

The test is done by performing a painless heel prick on the baby and collecting a few drops of blood. This sample is sent to NeoGen labs for testing. Results are normally available within 5 days.

Whatman 903™ (GE Healthcare)

The 903 Specimen collection paper from Whatman is used by NeoGen Labs to collect the sample. The associated packaging is custom designed and manufactured under controlled conditions by Whatman (a GE Healthcare company), to maintain sample integrity in the harsh environmental conditions in India.

The bar coded specimen collection paper is an FDA approved IVD device and meets all CLSI newborn screening standards to ensure that sample integrity and patient data is not compromised.

To know more about **1st Step** Newborn Screening, please visit:

www.neogenlabs.com www.savebabies.org www.babysfirsttest.org



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NeoGen Labs and Whatman (a GE Healthcare company) partner to provide Newborn Screening Services adhering to global standards. NeoGen Labs is NABL accredited.