

There may be other tests besides those required by your state. More helpful information is available by contacting:

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH & SENIOR SERVICES**

**Special Child Health and  
Early Intervention Services**

**Newborn Screening and Genetic Services**

**PO Box 364 • Trenton, NJ 08625-0364**

**609-292-1582**

**[www.newbornscreening.nj.gov](http://www.newbornscreening.nj.gov)**

*If the results of the first test are not within normal limits, it does not necessarily mean your baby has a disorder. No test is perfect. There is a small chance that the test may show a problem when no problem exists. There is also a small chance that the test may not show a problem when a problem exists. This may also vary from one condition to another.*



**Chris Christie**  
*Governor*

**Kim Guadagno**  
*Lt. Governor*



**Mary E. O'Dowd, MPH**  
*Commissioner*

C1752

# These Tests Could Save Your Baby's Life

## Newborn Screening Tests



## Why does my baby need Newborn Screening tests?

Most babies are healthy when they are born.

We test all babies because a few babies look healthy but have a rare health problem.

If we find problems early, we can help prevent serious problems like mental retardation or death.

## How will my baby be tested?

Before you leave the hospital, a nurse will take a few drops of blood from your baby's heel.

The hospital will send the blood sample to a newborn screening lab.

## How will I get the results of the test?

Parents are notified of test results if there is a problem.

Ask about results when you see your baby's health professional.



## Why do some babies need to be retested?

Your baby may be retested if you leave the hospital before 24 hours.

Some States require a second test on all babies.

Some babies need to be retested because there is a problem with the blood sample.

A few babies need to be retested because the first test showed a possible health problem.

## What if my baby needs to be retested?

Your baby's health professional or the State Health Department will contact you if your baby needs to be retested. They will tell you why the baby needs to be retested and what to do next.

If your baby needs to be retested, get it done right away.

Make sure that your hospital and health professional have your correct address and phone number.

## What if I have questions?

Ask your baby's health professional if you have questions or concerns.

