

Any questions?

Please do not hesitate to ask the professionals who care for you or your baby any questions you may have about this screening. **You can also follow this link:** depistage-neonatal.fr

For more information on the diseases screened for, **scan this QR code.**



YOUR REGIONAL CENTRE

Information concerning your personal data

Neonatal screening involves collecting data about your child's health and personal information about you, which will enable us to contact you if necessary.

These data are transmitted securely to the regional neonatal screening centre, which is responsible for processing them.

You can find information about this treatment and your rights in the leaflet available on the website of the National Centre for Neonatal Screening (CNCNDN): depistage-neonatal.fr

Screening steps after your baby is born



STAKEHOLDERS

PROGRAMME NATIONAL
DE DÉPISTAGE NEONATAL

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You are expecting a baby or your baby has just been born.

Screening from birth is important

In France, all newborns undergo free screening 2 to 3 days after birth to detect certain serious diseases. This leaflet provides information about the objectives and procedure of this screening.

What is screening from birth?

In babies, some diseases are not visible in the days following birth. But they can be **detected** by a blood test.

Why screen **all** babies?

This screening is offered to all babies, even if they are well. It helps to **detect some rare diseases as early as possible** and start treatment even before signs of the disease appear. The aim is to prevent the baby from suffering any permanent sequelae and to enable him or her to develop and grow as well as possible.

How does screening work?

In practice, a midwife, paediatric nurse or nurse pricks the heel or back of the baby's hand and collects a few drops of blood, which are placed on a piece of blotting paper. This test is **quick and safe**.

"To reassure your baby and alleviate the pain of the sting, hold them in your arms or have them suckle."



At the maternity ward or at home.



2-3 days after birth.

The blotting paper is then sent to a laboratory for analysis.

What **diseases** are screened for?

The diseases screened for are rare, but they are serious, often genetic in origin, and last a lifetime.

...o **Certain hormonal disorders**

prevent hormones from functioning properly and lead to significant consequences (intellectual disability, growth retardation, etc.).

...o **Certain metabolic disorders**

prevent the body from properly utilising food and can lead to serious consequences (intellectual disability, growth retardation, etc.).

...o **Cystic fibrosis**

causes frequent lung infections and difficulty breathing, as well as difficulty digesting.

...o **Sickle cell disease**

causes anaemia (lack of red blood cells), pain, and infections.

...o **Severe combined immune deficiency**

causes severe respiratory infections.

...o **Infantile spinal muscular atrophy**

gradually causes severe weakness in all muscles, along with respiratory problems.

For more information, **scan the QR code** on the flap.

What happens if your baby **is affected**?

Medical follow-up will be provided by a specialist team, with several types of treatment available:

...o **medicinal products**

...o **diet adapted to the disease**

These treatments will enable baby to develop as well as possible.



As parents, **your consent is required**

This screening is essential for your child. It will only be carried out with your consent. You will be asked to provide written consent for genetic testing that is necessary to screen for certain diseases.

If you have any questions, you can discuss them with a healthcare professional.

"Refusal of genetic screening or testing must be expressed in writing and signed."



How will you be **informed of the results**?

In most cases, the results are normal and parents are not contacted.

You may be contacted by the regional reference centre after one or two weeks in two cases:

- ...o either to repeat the screening because the blotting paper was unusable;
- ...o or because the results need to be checked. The doctors need to see the baby again to suggest further tests and make sure he/she is not ill.

"If you have not heard anything after 4 weeks, this means that the results are normal."



Every year, out of nearly 700,000 births in France, 1,400 babies are diagnosed with serious illnesses and can receive effective treatment at a very early stage. Cases of sick babies not detected by the tests are extremely rare.