

Wisconsin Newborn Screening: Three Parts for a Healthy Start Critical Congenital Heart Disease

Facts about Critical Congenital Heart Disease

- Critical Congenital Heart Disease (CCHD) happens when the heart does not develop properly before birth.
- You may find out if your baby has CCHD during a prenatal ultrasound. Sometimes you will not find out until after your baby is born.
- CCHD affects two to three of every 1,000 births.
- While CCHD may be life threatening, early identification saves lives. In most cases, effective treatment is available.



Why is newborn CCHD screening important?

Newborn CCHD screening checks for heart problems present at birth. A pulse oximeter is used to measure how much oxygen your baby's heart is pumping throughout their body. Low oxygen levels may indicate a heart defect. If this happens, action will be taken immediately to get your baby the help they need.

What is newborn CCHD screening?

- Newborn CCHD screening can find babies with a severe heart defect known as Critical Congenital Heart Disease (CCHD).
- A pulse oximeter is used to look for low levels of oxygen in the blood.
- The sensor will be placed on your baby's right hand and one foot.
- The test is fast and painless.
- Newborn CCHD screening will usually be done between 24 and 48 hours after your baby is born.

What if my baby has low oxygen levels?

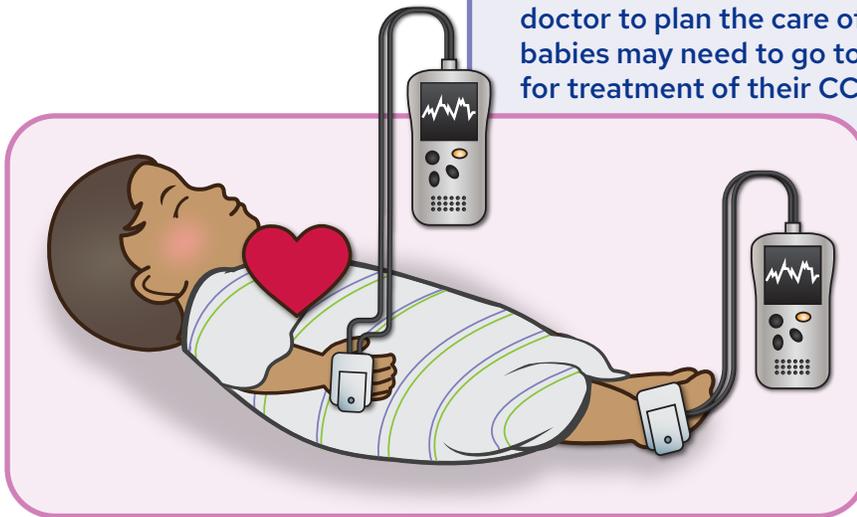
If your baby does not pass the pulse oximetry screening, more testing will be needed to look at your baby's heart. Some babies are found to have healthy hearts.

Heart screening is one of three parts of newborn screening.

Learn more about blood and hearing screening for a healthy start!

What if my baby has CCHD?

If your baby is found to have CCHD, health care staff will work with a children's heart doctor to plan the care of your baby. Some babies may need to go to another hospital for treatment of their CCHD.



For more information about Wisconsin's Newborn Screening Program scan the QR codes or visit the links below!

Newborn Heart Screening



dhs.wisconsin.gov/newbornscreening/cchd.htm

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