

Steps to Collecting the Newborn Screening Specimen

Using the New 31 Million Series Form

1

Collection time should be between 12-48 hours after birth.

Please time specimen collection to allow for **3 hours** drying time and same day shipment to the lab whenever possible. Fill in **ALL** blanks on the Test Request Form (TRF) according to the instructions on the back.

If newborn is transferred after 12 hours of age, make sure the specimen is collected before transfer and send a TRF copy to the receiving hospital.

(Please print legibly using all capital letters, with one character per box.) Check the expiration date and NEVER USE AN EXPIRED FORM.

2

Before completing form, verify the name of the newborn, outpatient community pediatric care provider, and contact information with the parent or legal guardian.

3

Check that all information on the TRF is complete, accurate and matches the newborn's information.

4

Drop the blood and fill the spots on to the attached filter paper specimen collection card.

5

After collecting the blood, tear out both the sender's copy and parent's copy, which includes the privacy notification required by HIPAA. Be careful **NOT** to separate the original (white) TRF from the filter paper.

6

Give the pink and blue copies to the parent. Instruct them to give the pink copy to the baby's doctor at their first visit.

7

File the yellow sender's copy in the newborn's medical record.

8

Dry TRF specimens horizontally using a drying rack. Fold back page covering blood spots to prevent contact until dry. Keep TRF forms at room temperature. Do not expose them to heat or moisture. **DO NOT** transport in a plastic bag at any time.

9

Send original TRF specimens with a completed transport log to the Newborn and Prenatal Screening (NAPS) Lab.

Attention Parents

1) Review the information on the pink copy of your baby's newborn screening form. Notify the hospital if your name, address and/or phone or the name, address and phone number of your baby's doctor is not correct.

2) Take the pink copy of this form when you go to your baby's checkup. This will help the doctor locate your baby's newborn screening results.

Thank you

What Happens To My Baby's Blood Spots After the Newborn Screening Tests Are Done?

California, like many other states, stores leftover newborn screening blood spots. The cards do not have your baby's name or any other personal information on them. The Newborn Screening (NBS) Program does not sequence your baby's entire DNA or store your baby's "DNA profile."

The NBS Program uses leftover blood spots:

- to evaluate and improve the current NBS program
- to develop new tests to add to the panel, such as when cystic fibrosis is added
- for quality control testing to ensure the tests are correct and the lab equipment is working properly

Are the stored blood spots used for anything else?

Yes. California law allows the NBS program to use or provide leftover newborn screening specimens for department-approved studies of diseases in women and children, such as research related to identifying and preventing diseases like birth defects, chronic disease, or exposure to toxins or infections. The blood spots are used without access to any personal identifying information. Because of this, you will not be notified of any study test results for your baby. No extra blood spots or specimens will be collected from your baby for research.

To get a form to request that your child's blood spots be destroyed or not be used for research go to: www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/CDSP/Pages/ParentForms.aspx.

If you have additional questions about blood spot storage, please visit our website at www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/nbs/NBSDBS-Storage.aspx, email us at CaliforniaBioBank@cdph.ca.gov, or write to us at: Chief of the Genetic Disease Screening Program, 850 Marina Bay Parkway F175, Richmond, CA 94804.

Para más información sobre el uso y mantenimiento de la muestra de sangre, por favor visite nuestro sitio web del Programa del Análisis de Recién Nacidos en www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/nbs/NBSDBS-Storage.aspx.

