

# After Newborn Screening



## What are dried blood spots?

Small spots of blood are collected after birth by pricking the baby's heel and placing blood on special paper to be screened for serious medical conditions. After the screening, there may be some blood left over.

*Families have the right to decide what happens to their baby's leftover blood spots after newborn screening.*

## Benefits of storing your baby's dried blood spots



### Helps to save lives!

The information that can be learned from de-identified blood spot research leads to improved identification and treatment of life-threatening conditions.



May reduce additional blood draws from your baby for other testing.



**It is free!** Families are not charged for any part of the storage process.



Indiana's lab needs stored blood spots to ensure the screening equipment works correctly.

Public Health Genetics Program  
Indiana Department of Health  
[www.NBS.in.gov](http://www.NBS.in.gov)  
phone 888.815.0006



**NEWBORN SCREENING**  
INDIANA

## How do I mark my choice and then what happens?



Check “YES” on the consent card if you want to store the blood for 3 years. Be sure to sign and date it too! Once the normal screening is performed, then the blood spots:

- **WILL** be destroyed 3 years after collection.
- **WILL** be securely stored in a monitored facility.
- **MAY** be used by your baby’s doctor for additional testing with parents’ permission.
- **MAY** be used to check laboratory equipment.
- **MAY** be used for de-identified research. Stored blood spots contribute to life-saving de-identified medical about condition detection and treatment options. The outcomes benefit countless babies and their families across our state and potentially the United States. Don’t worry, all research requests must be rigorously reviewed prior to the release of any de-identified blood spots. Since all research requests must only use de-identified data, your baby’s name and private information will NEVER be released to researchers.



Check “NO” on the consent card if you DO NOT want to store the blood for 3 years. Be sure to sign and date it too! Once the normal screening is performed, then the blood spots:

- **WILL** be securely stored for 6 months for any screening purposes and then destroyed.
- **WILL NOT** be available for your baby’s doctor to use for any additional testing.
- **WILL NOT** be used for research or lab equipment improvements.



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