



Overview of Alberta's NMS Program show what you know

Alberta's Newborn Metabolic Screening (NMS) Program is about health care providers working together with parents and guardians to screen for 17 treatable conditions.

At the heart of all this is the **newborn blood spot screening pathway**. The newborn blood spot screening pathway makes sure all screened infants who may have one of the treatable conditions get clinical assessment, diagnostic testing and early treatment if needed. Early screening helps find conditions that can be treated early when the treatment can help an infant the most.

At birth, an infant starts a journey that will last a lifetime. We can help infants on their journeys by making sure they're screened safely, correctly and in a timely manner. This helps gives them a better chance of being and staying healthy, strong and free from harm on their journeys.

More information:

[See the summary for](#)



Overview of Alberta's NMS Program

[See the essentials for](#)



Walking Along the Newborn Blood Spot Screening Pathway



Enhancing the NMS Program



Getting it Right Every Time



Making it Better

[See the NMS Program](#)

Condition Fact Sheets

[See the Alberta Health Services](#)

Newborn Metabolic Screening Program Policy

visit www.albertahealthservices.ca/newbornscreening.asp

1. The newborn blood spot screening pathway ends when:
 - a. there are normal screen results which do not need following up
 - b. there are abnormal screen results and diagnostic testing has been completed to find out if an infant has one of the 17 treatable conditions
 - c. neither of the above
 - d. either one of the above

2. True or false

Staff can do their part to improve newborn blood spot screening for infants by following the NMS Program timelines _____

3. True or false

The main reasons for needing to collect the blood spots again are using an expired blood spot card, poor quality blood spots or not taking the time to fill out the card correctly _____

4. Fill in the blank

Every blood spot card (requisition) should be

R _____
I _____
G _____
H _____
T _____

5. The main purpose of submitting a report using the Reporting and Learning System (RLS) when there is a problem, a problem is avoided or a problem could happen is
 - a. to find out who is responsible for making a mistake
 - b. so that other staff can learn from the problem, avoided problem or potential problem
 - c. to provide a record of all staff members' actions in case disciplinary measures need to be taken
 - d. none of the above

See answers on next page



ANSWERS

1. d. either one of the above

2. True

3. True

4. Every blood spot card (requisition) should be

R recorded correctly

I in between 24 and 72 hours

G great quality blood spots

H handled carefully

T transported quickly

5. b. so that other staff can learn from the problem, avoided problem or potential problem

