

Alberta Newborn Screening Program Summary

September 2023

Who

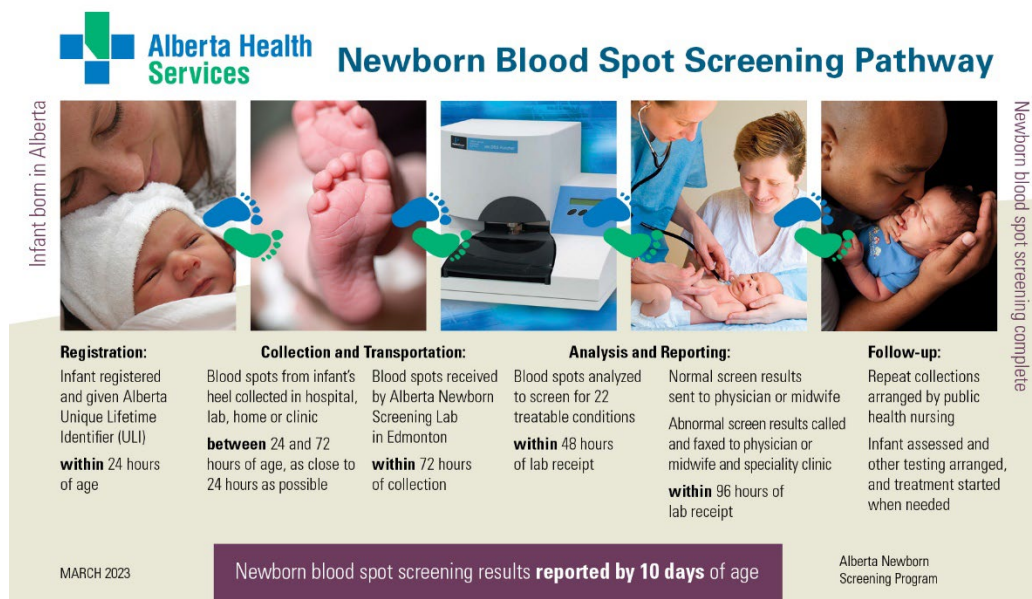
Alberta Newborn Screening Program (ANSP) is a population-based screening program delivered by Alberta Health Services (AHS) in partnership with Alberta Health, First Nations (FN) communities, physicians and midwives, and parents. The ANSP is coordinated by a dedicated team within AHS Provincial Population & Public Health (PPPH).

What and Why

The ANSP screens for 22 treatable conditions (16 metabolic conditions, 2 endocrine conditions, cystic fibrosis [CF], sickle cell disease [SCD], severe combined immunodeficiency [SCID], and spinal muscular atrophy [SMA]) to identify and treat infants with any of the screened conditions as early as possible. By informing parents, health professionals and the public about the ANSP, the ANSP is able to achieve its goals of minimizing morbidity and mortality of Alberta infants through early detection and treatment of screened conditions; and ensuring that all infants born in Alberta receive timely access to effective newborn blood spot screening and have an initial screen result reported within 10 days of age.

How

Service delivery within the ANSP is supported along the newborn blood spot screening pathway by many providers within AHS, Alberta Precision Laboratories (APL), DynaLIFE, Covenant Health, FN communities, physicians and midwives.



The ANSP uses a health promotion process integrated with a quality management framework (QMF) which provides an operational model to manage population-based screening and achieve continuous quality improvement along the newborn blood spot screening pathway. The purpose of the ANSP QMF is to maximize screening opportunities, minimize potential errors and reduce the risk of missing a newborn, screen, result and or follow-up.



Current State

In 2022-2023

- 99.20% (47,091/47,472) of registered infants received an initial newborn blood spot screen
- 98.95% (46,597/47,091) of registered screened infants had a screen result reported within 10 days of age
- 0.60% (282/47,147) of screened infants received abnormal screen results requiring clinical follow-up
- 79 screened infants received abnormal diagnostic outcomes
- 1.61% (798/49,642) of samples received by the Alberta Newborn Screening Laboratory were determined to be inadequate

Source: Alberta Newborn Screening Program Report 2022-2023