



# Using Parent Information Sheets essentials




## Remember

- To use words parents will know and understand.
- The consent process needs to be followed for both
  - collecting the blood spots the first time and
  - collecting the blood spots again.
- The “4 what and 1 how” to guide an informed consent conversation.
- Involving parents as part of the process is the best way to protect an infant’s health.
- For this to happen with newborn blood spot screening, parents need to know two things – why we’re poking their baby’s heel and how they can help their baby while it happens.

## For more information

visit [www.ahs.ca/newbornscreening](http://www.ahs.ca/newbornscreening)

### Staff Education

-  Talking with Parents
-  Special Situations when Talking with Parents
-  Parent Refusal

### Parent Info

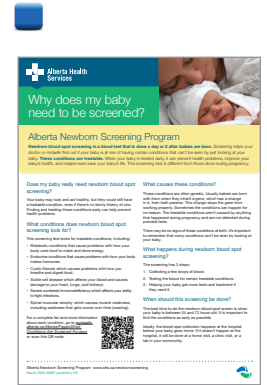
Why does my baby need to be screened?  
Additional Information for Parents

### Clinical Policy Suite



Newborn Blood Spot Screening Sample Collection Procedure

## Checklist

- give the parent the parent information sheet *Why does my baby need to be screened?*
- use the parent information sheet to describe “4 what and 1 how” to obtain informed consent for collection
  - what are the screened conditions
  - what is newborn blood spot screening
  - what are the risks and benefits of newborn screening
  - what are the next steps after getting the screen done
  - how to comfort the baby during the heel poke



## Process

- listen to the parent’s concerns. If a parent does not want to have their baby screened, use Additional Information for Parents sheet to discuss the consequences of not getting screened
- answer the parent’s questions and/or refer them to the parent information sheets for more information. See the *Special Situations when Talking with Parents essentials* 
- ask the parent if it’s okay to collect the infant’s blood spots (parent gives express consent verbally)
- if the parent refuses to have the newborn blood spot screen done, see the *Parent Refusal essentials* 
- document talking with the parent about the newborn blood spot screen or the repeat newborn blood spot screen in the infant’s health record (in Connect Care, document in “Consent Notes”)

