



Talking with Parents

show what you know

Involving parents as part of the process is the best way to protect an infant's health.





For this to happen, parents need to know two things – they need to know why we're poking their baby's heel and how they can help their baby while it happens.

The process of newborn blood spot screening can be a stressful time full of questions for a parent. What can we do to give them the most accurate information about their baby's health in a way that's easy to understand?

For more information

Patient & Family Centred Care on Insite
visit www.ahs.ca/newbornscreening

Staff Education

-  Talking with Parents
-  Using the Parent Information Sheets
-  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

1. Which of the following are ways to help explain the reasons for newborn blood spot screening in a way parents can easily grasp (check all that apply)?
 - use clinical terminology
 - go through the Alberta Newborn Screening Program (ANSP) parent information sheets with the parent
 - ask the parent questions to see if they understand the information on the parent information sheets
 - give the parent information sheets for the parent to read on their own time, don't worry about explaining it to them
 - use the vocabulary on the parent information sheets when talking with the parent

2. A parent asks why their baby needs to be screened again. The nurse should use the _____ section of *Why does my baby need to be screened?* parent information sheet

3. A parent has further questions about newborn blood spot screening. The nurse should use the _____ parent information sheet

4. Draw arrows to match the special situation with the correct action.

<p>the parent requests the blood spot be returned</p> <p>the parent asks for partial screening</p> <p>the parent asks for additional screening</p>	<p>tell the parent that they can't choose which of the treatable conditions their baby is screened for</p> <p>tell the parent to talk to their doctor or midwife</p> <p>tell the parent that it is possible after all testing the infant needs is completed and the screen results are reported, and to talk to their doctor or midwife</p>
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5. A parent has refused the newborn blood spot screen. The nurse should (check all that apply)
 - go over the *Additional Information for Parents* parent information sheet with the parent and explain the risks and consequences of not having the newborn blood spot screen done
 - ask the parent if they still want to refuse the newborn blood spot screen
 - write "PARENT SAID NO WAY" on the blood spot card
 - have a co-worker complete the "Health Professional Use Only" section of the *Refusal for Newborn Blood Spot Screen* form
 - fax the completed refusal form to the ANSP, include the completed form in the infant's health record and make sure the blood spot card is sent to the Alberta Newborn Screening Lab

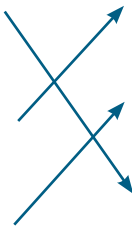
See answers on next page



ANSWERS

- ✗ use clinical terminology

 - ✓ go through the ANSP parent information sheets with the parent
 - ✓ ask the parent questions to see if they understand the information on the parent information sheets
 - ✗ give the parent information sheets for the parent to read on their own time, don't worry about explaining it to them
 - ✓ use the vocabulary on the parent information sheets when talking with the parent
2. What if my baby needs the screen done again?
3. Additional Information for Parents
4.

the parent requests the blood spot be returned		tell the parent that they can't choose which of the treatable conditions their baby is screened for
the parent asks for partial screening		tell the parent to talk to their doctor or midwife
the parent asks for additional screening		tell the parent that it is possible after all testing the infant needs is completed and the screen results are reported, and to talk to their doctor or midwife
5.
 - ✓ go over the *Additional Information for Parents* parent information sheet with the parent and explain the risks and consequences of not having the newborn blood spot screen done
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