

Facts about Critical Congenital Heart Disease (CCHD)

- Critical Congenital Heart Disease (CCHD) happens when the heart does not develop normally before birth.
- CCHD is one of the main causes of newborn and infant death.
- CCHD is found in some babies by prenatal ultrasound, but for many babies, it is found after they are born.
- CCHD affects 2-3 of every 1,000 births.
- Not all kinds of congenital heart disease cause babies to die.

Where can I get more information about the Wisconsin Newborn Screening Program?

For additional information about newborn screening contact the:

Wisconsin Newborn Screening Program

Division of Public Health

P.O. Box 2659

Madison, WI 53701-2659

608-266-8904

Visit the following websites for additional information on Newborn Blood Screening or for other Newborn Screening Programs, such as hearing screening.

www.wisconsinshine.org

www.slh.wisc.edu/clinical/newborn

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/health/children/newbornscreening/index.htm>

<http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/health/children/infantheating/index.htm>

www.geneticsinwisconsin.wisc.edu

www.mch-hotlines.org

(Wisconsin First Step: 800-642-STEP)

Newborn Screening for Critical Congenital Heart Disease



Wisconsin Newborn Screening Program



State of Wisconsin
Department of Health Services
Division of Public Health
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Critical Congenital Heart Disease

Congratulations on the birth of your new baby!

In the first few days of life we want to do everything we can to make sure your baby is healthy.

One of the screening tests that will be done is a measurement of the oxygen level in your baby's blood. Low levels of oxygen can mean that your baby has a problem with his or heart

called Critical Congenital Heart Disease (CCHD). Although it is very rare, some babies can have serious heart problems but seem normal in the first few days after birth.



Screening for Critical Congenital Heart Disease

- Pulse oximetry screening can find babies with a severe heart defects known as critical congenital heart disease (CCHD). CCHD can cause babies to get very sick and even die.
- Pulse oximetry uses a sensor with a light to look for low levels of oxygen in the blood.
- The sensor will be placed on your baby's right hand and one foot.
- The test is fast and won't hurt your baby.
- Pulse oximetry screening will usually be done between 24 and 48 hours after your baby is born.

What if a baby fails the pulse oximetry screening test?

- A baby fails the pulse oximetry screening if their oxygen level falls below 90% during the screening or if the levels are between 90% and 94% on three tries.
- Babies will also fail the screening if there is more than a 3% difference between the right hand and the foot on three tries.
- If your baby fails the pulse oximetry screening, more testing may be needed to look at your baby's heart.
- Some babies who fail pulse oximetry screening are found to have normal hearts.

Will screening find all types of congenital heart disease?

Some types of heart problems will not be found using pulse oximetry screening because some heart problems do now cause low oxygen levels.

What if my baby has a CCHD?

If your baby is found to have CCHD, the people taking care of your newborn will work with a children's heart doctor to plan the care of your baby. Some families may need to go to a larger hospital to have their baby tested.