

Newborn Screening & COVID-19

Although the Arizona State Public Health Lab is responding to COVID-19, newborn screening guidelines will not change.



1st Bloodspot Screen

Collect between 24- 36 hours of age

- OR prior to TPN or RBC transfusion
- OR prior to discharge if before 24 hours**

**Early collection increases risk of false negative results

Hearing Screening: 1-3-6 Month Goals

- 1- Complete at 24 hours of age, or prior to discharge
- 3- Diagnostic evaluation by a pediatric audiologist no later than 3 months
- 6- Enroll in early intervention as soon as diagnosed, no later than 6 months

**Early screening can lead to an increase in "refer" rates



CCHD Screening

- Complete pulse ox at 24 hours of age, no later than 48 hours
- If baby fails, submit the Failed Pulse Oximetry Report to the Office of Newborn Screening within 30 days

**Early screening increases risk of both false positive and false negative results

2nd Bloodspot Screen

Collect between 5- 10 days of age

- Collect regardless of feeding status
- Although less than ideal, babies up to 1 year of age can be screened



Transit Time

- All samples should be dried horizontally for 3 hours in one central location
- Dried samples should be placed in the green bin for transport by the courier
- There is no change with the courier schedule
 - Courier will continue to pick up samples 6 days a week
- Samples should be ready for transport no more than 24 hours after collection
- Do NOT batch samples!
 - Send samples that are dry, even if it's just one sample
- 98% of samples should be received at the state lab within 3 days of collection (including weekends and holidays)

The Office of Newborn Screening does not recommend deviating from these testing timelines.

If newborn screening procedures at your facility are altered due to COVID-19, please contact the Office of Newborn Screening for guidance.