

Newborn Screening *saving lives with a simple blood spot*



Newborn blood spot screening is a Department of Health program that identifies babies born in Washington State with rare genetic disorders.

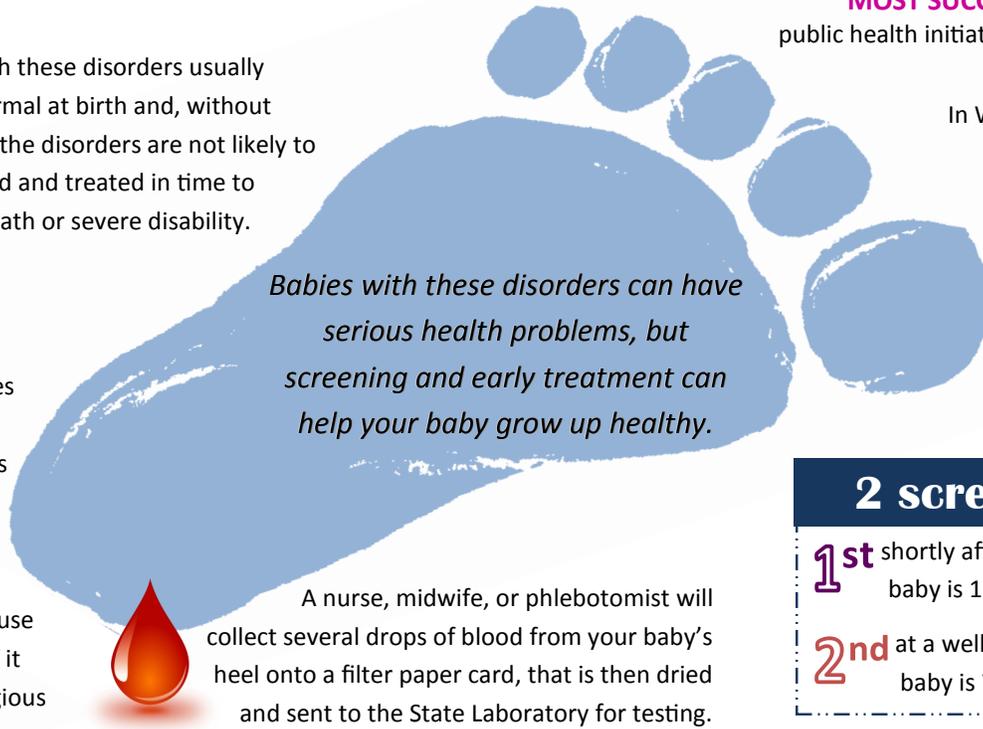
Newborn Screening is one of the **MOST SUCCESSFUL** public health initiatives in the USA



Infants with these disorders usually appear normal at birth and, without screening, the disorders are not likely to be detected and treated in time to prevent death or severe disability.

To make sure these disorders are identified quickly, State law requires a newborn blood spot to be collected for all babies before they are 2 days old.

Parents can legally refuse newborn screening if it conflicts with their religious tenets or practices.



Babies with these disorders can have serious health problems, but screening and early treatment can help your baby grow up healthy.

A nurse, midwife, or phlebotomist will collect several drops of blood from your baby's heel onto a filter paper card, that is then dried and sent to the State Laboratory for testing.

In Washington State, about



are diagnosed with one of the **28 disorders** on the screening panel.

2 screens in WA

1st shortly after birth, when your baby is 18-48 hours old

2nd at a well-child visit, when your baby is 7-14 days old

DOH 951-144 Mar 2015

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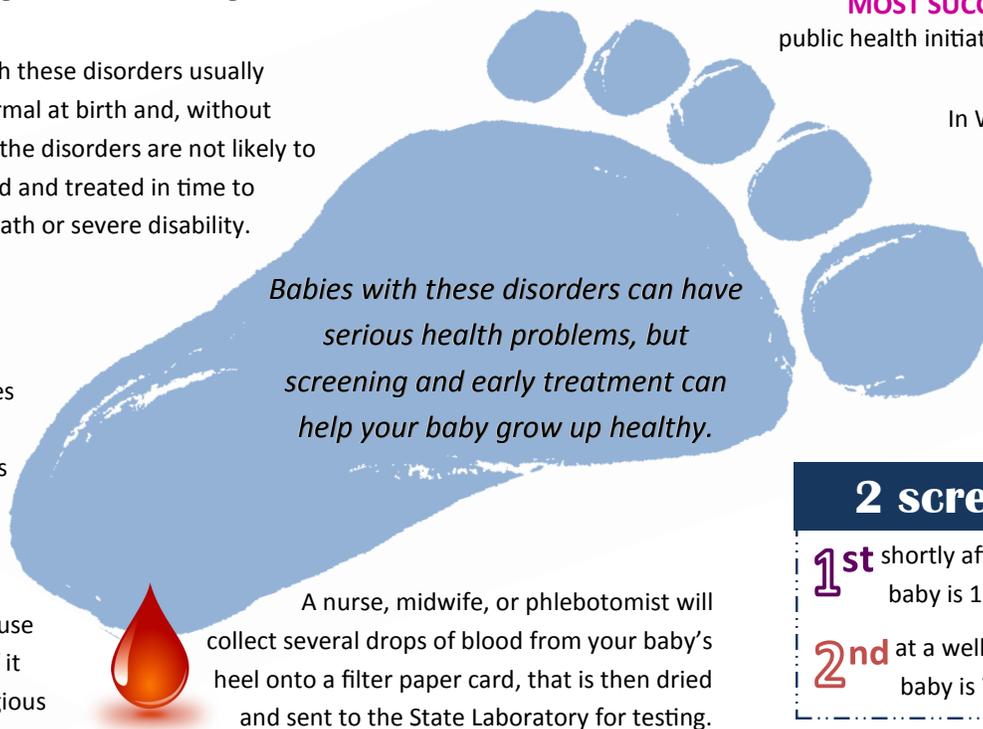
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