

SPOTfocus

Newborn Screening Quality Improvement Hints

One reason for CRITICAL DELAYS and specimen rejection of newborn screening testing are

Missing Date of Birth or Collection

INSURANCE **Newborn Screening** **SELF-PAY**
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES Laboratory Services Section CLIA#45D0660644
FORM NBS-4 Expires 03/31/2026. Telephone # (888) 963-7111 ext. 7333

MOTHER INFORMATION

Mother's Last Name _____ Mother's First Name _____
Maiden Name _____ Social Security # _____
Mother's Birth Date _____
Street Address _____ Apt. _____
City _____ Zip Code _____ State _____
Best Phone Number to Reach Mother/Parent/Guardian _____

BABY'S PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN INFORMATION

Physician Name (Last, First) _____
Street Address _____ State _____
City _____ Zip Code _____ State _____
Phone No. _____ Fax No. _____

USE BLACK INK, PRINT INFORMATION COMPLETELY ACCURATELY, & LEGIBLY IN BLOCK CAPITAL LETTERS. See back of form for instructions.

DSHS Lab No. _____ For Texas DSHS Use Only

SPECIMEN REJECTED if NO Date of Collection or NO Newborn's Last Name is provided.

NEWBORN INFORMATION

Newborn's Last Name _____ First Name/Twin A or B _____
Medical Record No. _____ Birth Order (1-9), if Multiple _____
Birthweight (grams) _____ Previous Specimen Serial Number _____
Birth Date _____ Collection Date _____
Sex _____ Gestational Age _____ Ethnicity _____
1. Male ☐ 2. Female ☐ 1. Breastmilk only ☐ 2. Formula only ☐ 3. TPN ± Milk ☐ 4. Breastmilk & Formula ☐ 5. NPO ☐ 1. White ☐ 2. Af. Amer. ☐ 3. Hispanic ☐ 4. Asian ☐ 5. Am. Indian ☐ 6. Other ☐ 1. Normal ☐ 2. Sick/Premature ☐ 3. On Medications ☐ 4. Both 1 & 2 ☐ 5. Both 1 & 3 ☐ 6. Both 2 & 3 ☐ 7. All 1-3 ☐ 1. Yes ☐ 2. No ☐ 1. Yes ☐ 2. No ☐

For DSHS use only

SUBMITTER INFORMATION

NBS Submitter ID Number: _____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ TX _____ Zip Code _____

Check to verify parent information & decision form distributed ☐

21-2177001

DSHS Copy

Newborn Screening specimens received at the laboratory are often received with missing or invalid date of birth and/or date of collection

Birth - Date	Military Time
M M D D Y Y	
Collection - Date	Military Time
M M D D Y Y	

TIPS TO AVOID CRITICAL DELAYS IN TESTING SPECIMENS

The New Year Is Coming!
Unfortunately, every New Year causes an increase in date-related demographic errors. These errors can lead to delays in testing.

- Complete all demographic information accurately and legibly to avoid delays in testing or specimen rejection.
- Assign an individual to double check all newborn screening specimen demographics before the shipment.
- A majority of the errors in dates occur when the New Year arrives. Implementing a “second check” system at your facility will help ensure the timely testing of all newborn screens.



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
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TEXAS NEWBORN SCREENING LABORATORY

Why is a specimen with missing demographic information rejected?

In the laboratory, specimens are categorized based on the baby's age at the time of specimen collection. For this reason, date of birth and date of collection must be recorded accurately. When the information is missing, testing may be delayed. Specimens that are missing date of collection may be unsatisfactory for testing.

Accurate and complete demographic information is necessary for the timely identification of newborns and provider contact if there is an abnormal result.

Other Helpful Resources



Newborn screening collection video:

<https://youtu.be/S51Y9ShD6HI?si=hCdRoIZcCT7i9K2R>



DSHS Newborn Screening Laboratory Contact:

Email: NewbornScreeningLab@dshs.state.tx.us

or call 1-888-963-7111 ext. 7333

