

Q. But my baby looks healthy . . .

A. Most babies with metabolic disorders look and act normal and seem perfectly healthy. **FIRST STEP** helps you identify a problem before symptoms appear. The earlier a disorder is detected, the higher the chance of having a good prognosis.

Q. What does a positive result indicate?

A. Parents should not be alarmed by positive results as the screening gives only preliminary information, albeit with a high degree of accuracy. It should be followed by a precise confirmatory test.



Giving babies the best start in life!

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TAKE THE
FIRST STEP
BEFORE THEY WALK!

What you need to know about Newborn Screening ...

In India, nearly 1 in 70 babies are affected by a metabolic disorder (also known as an IEM or Inborn Error of Metabolism). These disorders prevent the baby from 'processing' food properly, leading to an accumulation of toxic chemicals in the blood harmful to the baby's normal development. If they remain undetected and untreated at birth, the results could be devastating, resulting in mental retardation and even death at anytime in the succeeding months or years, depending on the disorder.

A Newborn Screening Test can detect abnormalities in the blood **BEFORE** symptoms appear. Treatment in most cases results in a normal healthy individual. However, once symptoms appear in a baby, the damage has already been done and it may be too late for treatment to have a good outcome. Thus, it is vital to screen ALL babies at birth for these disorders.

In most cases when a disorder is detected, the treatment involves a dietary change or addition of a vitamin for normal development.

NeoGen Labs offers **FIRST STEP**, a Newborn Screening Test, for IEMs for babies in India. **FIRST STEP** can detect over 50 treatable metabolic disorders. Ask your pediatrician about First Step. You owe it to yourself and your baby.

FIRST STEP is performed at NeoGen Labs in Bangalore, with technology from Pediatrix Screening in the USA, the world leader in Newborn Screening. The technology has been perfected by screening more than 3 million babies in over 10 years. Results are normally available in less than 5 days.



Ayden ...

He has G6PD deficiency but simple dietary changes have ensured that he will lead a normal healthy life. It affects a disproportionately large number of Parsis and Gujaratis.

Questions & Answers

Q. What is the **FIRST STEP** Newborn Screening Test?

A. It screens babies for over 50 metabolic disorders and is ideally recommended to be done between 1 and 7 days after birth. **If not done during this period, FIRST STEP can be done at any time after birth.**

Q. How is **FIRST STEP** done?

A. **FIRST STEP** is performed by pricking a baby's heel with a lancet and putting a couple of drops of blood on a special filter paper. The blood sample is dried on the paper and is sent to NeoGen Labs for analysis.

Q. How much does it cost?

Rs. 3975/- to detect over 50 disorders; a small portion of what you will spend to raise your baby to adulthood. Consider it a gift to your baby, one that lasts a lifetime!

Q. But we have no family history of these disorders...

A. Parents who have no family history of problems and who have already had healthy children can still have children with these disorders.