

Rhode Island screens babies for the following nine conditions and hearing loss. Many serious effects of these conditions can be prevented with early detection and treatment.

BIOTINIDASE DEFICIENCY

- » Babies with this condition cannot use a vitamin called biotin. This can cause babies to grow very slowly, and they can become mentally retarded.
- » This condition is treated with special medicine.

CONGENITAL ADRENAL HYPERPLASIA (CAH)

- » Babies with this condition cannot make enough of certain types of hormones.
- » This condition is treated with special medicine.

CONGENITAL HYPOTHYROIDISM

- » Babies with this condition do not make enough thyroid hormone. Without the right amount of this hormone, babies grow very slowly, and they can become mentally retarded.
- » This condition is treated with special medicine.

GALACTOSEMIA

- » Babies with this condition cannot use the sugars in milk, formula, and breast milk. If it is not treated, it can hurt the baby's eyes, liver, and brain.
- » This condition is treated with special formula and diet.

HOMOCYSTINURIA

- » Babies with this condition do not have enough of a chemical used in the liver. It can cause mental retardation and other health problems.
- » This condition is treated with a special diet.

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MAPLE SYRUP URINE DISEASE (MSUD)

- » Babies with this condition cannot use parts of protein in milk and food. It can cause mental retardation and other health problems.
- » This condition is treated with a special diet.

MEDIUM CHAIN ACYL-COA DEHYDROGENASE (MCAD) DEFICIENCY

- » Babies with this condition cannot break down certain kinds of fat to use for energy. It can cause brain damage and other health problems.
- » This condition is treated with a special diet.

PHENYLKETONURIA (PKU)

- » Babies with PKU cannot use a certain part of protein found in milk and food. It can cause brain damage and learning problems.
- » PKU is treated with special formula and diet.

SICKLE CELL DISEASE

- » Sickle Cell Disease affects the baby's red blood cells. Babies with this condition can get very sick and even die from common infections.
- » This condition is treated early in an infant's life with daily antibiotics.

As testing methods improve, new conditions are added to the list. For the most current list of conditions that babies are tested for, visit our website at www.health.ri.gov/genetics/newborn.htm. Additional information about these conditions is available at www.savebabies.org. You can also call the Family Health Information Line at 1-800-942-7434, weekdays from 8:30am to 4:30pm.