



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services



Report Diagnosed Cases of Critical Congenital Heart Disease in Newborns

Critical congenital heart disease is one of the leading causes of death in infants under a year of age. Babies can appear healthy at birth but may have a significant heart defect. Babies who are undiagnosed are at risk of having serious complications within the first few days or weeks of life, and often require emergency care. Timely detection, care and treatment may prevent disability or early death.

State law requires Texas hospitals to screen newborns for CCHD beginning September 2014. [Reporting confirmed cases](#) of CCHD to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is a component of that mandate.

Please Report Confirmed Cases

Reporting of confirmed cases allows DSHS' Newborn Screening Program to assess the effectiveness of CCHD screening.

Use the [CCHD Reporting Form](#) to report confirmed cases to DSHS. Please send the form **within two weeks** after the diagnosis is confirmed.

Why Is Reporting Needed?

As part of its public health mission, DSHS identifies patterns and outcomes of children with birth defects in Texas. In addition, the agency collaborates with others in research, prevention and family outreach services.

CCHD Toolkit, Training & CEUs

The [CCHD toolkit](#) provides educational and technical information as well as recommended protocol for CCHD screening.

Texas Health Steps offers a free online provider education [training module for CCHD screening](#). Earn free continuing education credit after course completion.

Contact DSHS

Newborn Screening Program
Website: www.dshs.texas.gov/newborn/cchd.aspx
Phone: 1-800-252-8023 ext. 3957
Email: newborn@dshs.texas.gov