



Citizens' Council for Health Freedom

Health Freedom Minute

February 1, 2019

Newborn (Genetic) Screening Databases

States conduct genetic testing on children, keeping the results in a database; sometimes short-term; sometimes forever. Newborn screening has been called the largest genetic testing program in the nation, but in the fog of child birth, most parents do not know the test is even taking place. And they aren't asked for permission.

Once the child's heel has been pricked, their blood is sent to the state government laboratory—and the results are registered in a newborn screening surveillance system. Except for those whose parents refuse, particularly for religious reasons, every child is tested, about four million each year. Children found with a genetic condition may also be registered in the state birth defects surveillance system.

“Patient Privacy and Public Trust: How Health Surveillance Systems Are Undermining Both,” Twila Brase, Policy Insights, Citizens' Council for Health Freedom, August 2013, pp 8 - 13:

<https://www.cchfreedom.org/files/files/50%20States%20Databases%20Full%20Report.pdf>

Presented daily by Twila Brase, President, Citizens' Council for Health Freedom.

*The Health Freedom Minute is now heard in 47 states:
Mornings M-Th at AM1280 (The Patriot) in MN and 91.5 AM WHKC (FreedomFM) in OH,
afternoons on American Family Radio, and daily on the CSN network
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