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Collateral Damage from Newborn Screening

Welcome to the Health Freedom Minute. This is Twila Brase, president of Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom.

Seven years ago, Minnesota newborns were tested for 8 genetic conditions. Today, the State tests for 54 conditions. This expansion of newborn screening has traumatized families

A study in this month’s Journal of Health and Social Behavior reveals that such screening “has created ambiguity about whether infants truly have a disease — and even what the disease is.”

Parents of newborns with a genetic flag are told their children may have a rare genetic condition. For years, parents wait in limbo. The infants are called “patients-in-waiting.” The study found that parents limit their child’s contacts with others and restrict their diets years after the child’s risk ends. According to the study, these families are “the collateral damage of newborn screening,”

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Sources:

The Health Freedom Minute is heard weekdays in Minnesota at 7:03 a.m., 11:03 a.m., 2:03 p.m. and 5:03 p.m. on WWTC AM1280 The Patriot.