







## Final UK NSC meeting of the year

The UK National Screening Committee (UK NSC) met for the final time in 2014 on 25 November and reviewed the recommendations on screening for Gaucher disease, dementia, preterm labour and bacterial vaginosis.

Its recommendations will be published in January 2015.

Current policy consultations:

- **Depression** (closes 26 December)
- **Sudden cardiac death** (closes 1 February)
- **Galactosaemia** (closes 19 February)
- **Fatty-acid oxidation disorders**



UK National Screening Committee

(closes 23 February)

- **Amino acid metabolism disorders** (closes 23 February)
- **Bladder cancer** (closes 28 February)

Consultations due to start soon:

- **Hearing loss in adults**
- **Psychiatric illness in pregnancy**

## New Screening Tests For You and Your Baby launched

# Booklet revamped

The UK NSC has launched a new version of the national **Screening Tests For You and Your Baby** booklet for parents.

The updated booklet contains detailed information on all the screening tests offered during pregnancy and after the birth of a child.

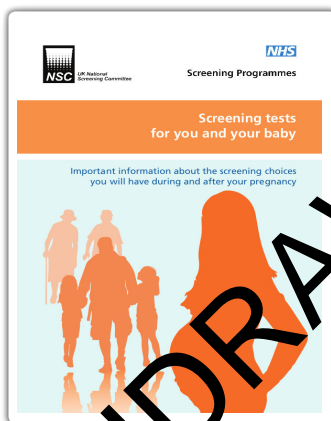
This includes the four new screening tests for rare conditions that will be rolled out across England early in 2015 as part of the newborn bloodspot

screening programme.

A key element of the booklet is to promote the concept of screening as an informed choice.

For the first time, the booklet includes explicit recognition that some screening choices are easier than others. Some tests are recommended because the information gained may enable important treatment to be given promptly for mother and baby.

Others require people to think more deeply about whether they want to know the information that a screening test may give them.



There will be some small changes made to the current booklet in the next print run from January. The possible options available for blood spot screening will be explained more clearly should parents only want to choose screening for certain conditions. The photographs of the hearing screening test will also be updated.

Leaflets can be ordered by emailing [RebeccaO@harlowprinting.co.uk](mailto:RebeccaO@harlowprinting.co.uk) or phoning 0191 4969735. Trusts should stop using the old booklet (version with blue and white cover) and recycle any remaining copies.

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## Other news in brief

### Website transition

The transition of the content of the NHS Screening websites to NHS Choices (public information) and GOV.UK (professional information) has continued with diabetic eye screening information for the public now live on NHS Choices at [www.nhs.uk/diabeticseye](http://www.nhs.uk/diabeticseye).

The transition of screening online content is due to be completed early in 2015. If you experience any problems during this time, please email the helpdesk at [phe.screeninghelpdesk@nhs.net](mailto:phe.screeninghelpdesk@nhs.net).

### Commons committee

In October, the **Science and Technology Committee's report on health screening** was published which the UK NSC contributed to earlier this year. A number of recommendations were made which the UK NSC is discussing with the Department of Health before contributing to a formal response to the committee in due course.

### New helpdesk number

The UK NSC Screening Helpdesk contact number has changed to 020 3682 0890.

### National teams have moved

The national antenatal and newborn screening programme teams have moved to a new office in London. The new address is: Public Health England, Zone B Floor 2, Skipton House, 80 London Road, London, SE1 6LH.

### Christmas leaflet ordering

Harlow Printing will be closed from Tuesday 23 December until Monday 5 January. If screening services have any queries regarding leaflet orders or stock of current leaflets, please contact Harlow on 0191 4969735 before this time.