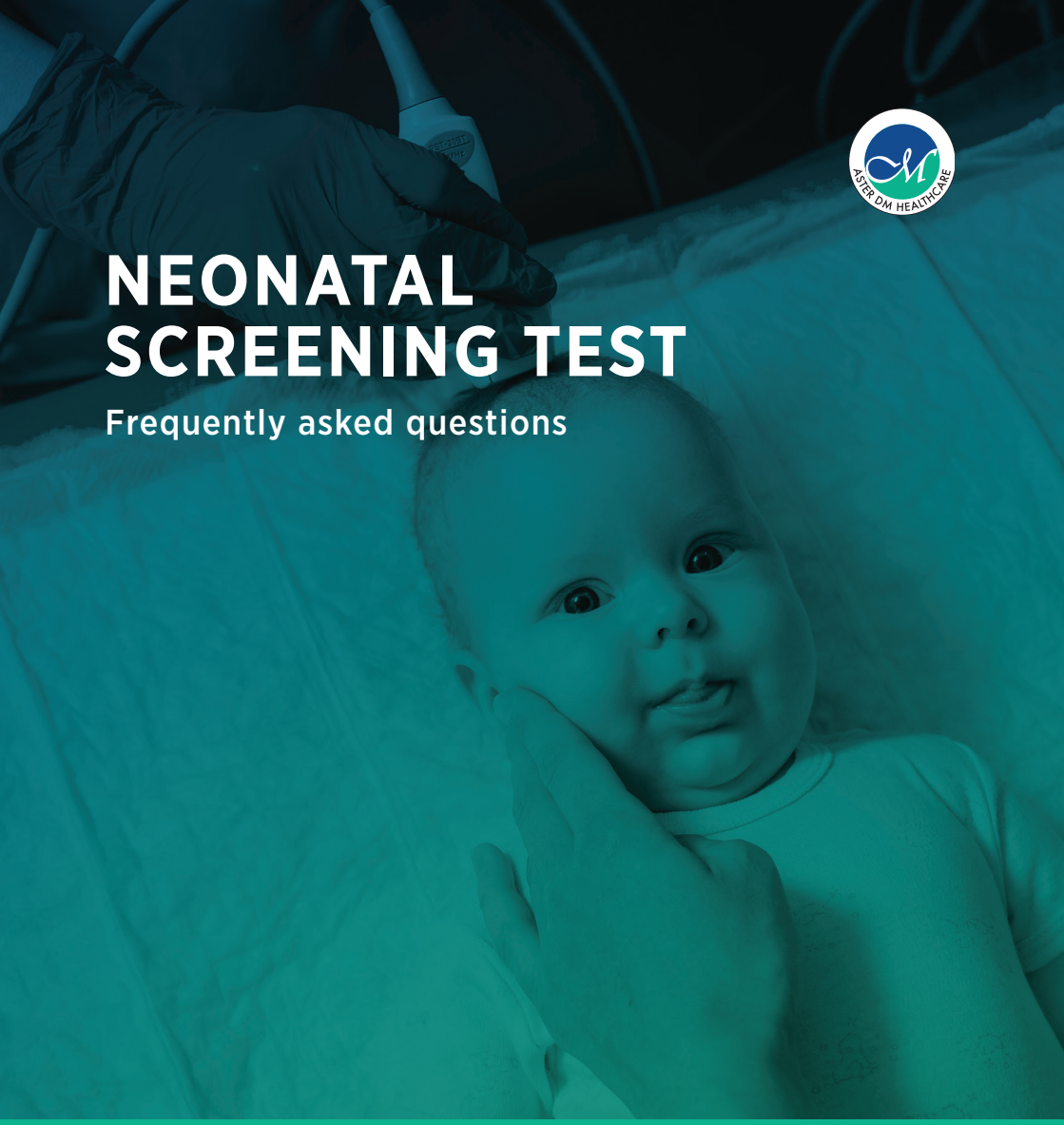

NEONATAL SCREENING TEST

Frequently asked questions

Aster HOSPITAL

We'll Treat You Well

Digital Version

WHAT IS NEONATAL SCREENING TEST?

Neonatal screening test is done for identifying diseases that could ultimately lead to developmental disability or even death. Newborn with these disorders typically appear healthy at birth.

WHAT IF SCREENING TEST IS NOT DONE?

Though the affected baby will generally appear healthy at birth, shortly after, symptoms start to appear in I out of 1500 babies. The affected baby is at the risk of mental disabilities. physical disabilities or even death if not diagnosed and treated early. Early diagnosis will remarkably change the ultimate outcome of babies with these disorders.

WHICH DISEASES CAN BE DETECTED?

Though newborn screening is available for 25 illnesses, strong recommendations exist to screen for congenital hypothyroidism (CH), congenital adrenal hyperplasia (CAH), and glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) deficiency and phenylketonuria. Universal newborn hearing screening with Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE) Test is advised.

WHEN SCREENING TEST IS DONE?

The screening is performed usually when the baby is 48 hours old. It could be performed later too but it is always more beneficial if the screening is done as early as possible. Early diagnosis would remarkably improve the outcome of these disorders.

HOW IS THE TEST DONE?

The test is done by a small prick on your baby's heels and putting a few drops of blood on a special filter paper. The paper will be sent to the newborn screening laboratory.

HOW WILL I KNOW THE RESULT?

Results usually come after two to three weeks. If something is wrong, you will be called on an urgent basis to the hospital. If it is a normal report, you can collect the results from the Paediatric OPD during a follow-up visit.

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