

# BEACONS-NBS: Newborn Genomic Sequencing Research

## A Quick Guide for Healthcare Providers



### What is BEACONS-NBS?

BEACONS is an NIH-funded research study evaluating if and how whole genome sequencing (WGS) can be responsibly integrated into public health newborn screening.

With parental consent, we use the same blood spot collected for routine newborn screening to look for ~800 actionable genetics conditions - those for which early identification may improve health outcomes.

**This is voluntary research and DOES NOT replace routine newborn screening.**

### AT A GLANCE



Research study evaluating the real-world feasibility of adding whole genome sequencing to newborn screening



Screens for ~800 actionable genetic conditions



Results typically available about 2-3 months after consent and blood spot collection



Parental consent is required. Participation is voluntary.



#### Research, not routine

BEACONS is a research study overseen by an IRB. It runs in parallel to routine newborn screening.



#### Same blood spot

No extra blood draw. We use a small portion of the blood spot already collected for routine screening,



#### ~800 actionable conditions

Conditions have treatments and/or monitoring that can begin in the first year of life.



#### Results returned through public health

Results are reported to the state newborn screening program and shared with providers/families through existing processes.



#### Healthcare Provider Roles

Primary care providers will be notified of results. Clinical interpretation, follow-up testing, and care are managed as part of routine clinical care.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



#### Is BEACONS part of the routine newborn screening?

No. It is a separate, voluntary research study. Routine newborn screening continues unchanged.



#### Are variants of uncertain significance (VUSs) reported?

No. Only likely pathogenic and pathogenic variants are reported to minimize unnecessary follow-up and anxiety.



#### Who pays for the study?

BEACONS covers the cost of genomic sequencing and analysis. Follow-up care is billed as routine clinical care.

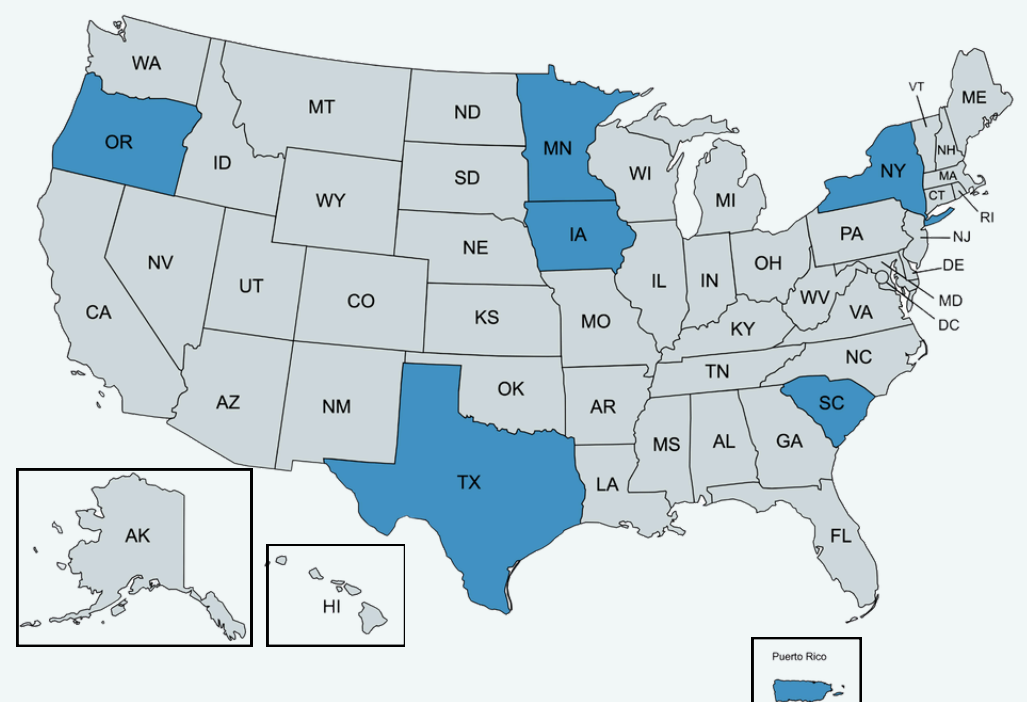


#### Where can I get support or more information?

Visit the BEACONS Genome Resource Center (GRC) on the website below for provider resources, clinical guidance, and educational materials.

## PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY PARTNERS

BEACONS screening will be initially offered in 7 states/territories: **Iowa, Minnesota, New York, Oregon, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, and Texas**



[www.beaconsnbs.org](http://www.beaconsnbs.org)



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