



Health Ministers' Meeting Communiqué

19 June 2026

Health Ministers outcome for Newborn Bloodspot Screening Expansion

On 13 June 2026, Health Ministers agreed to add mucopolysaccharidosis type 1 (MPS I) and type 2 (MPS II) to Australia's newborn bloodspot screening programs. This decision was based on the Medical Services Advisory Committee's (MSAC) advice to screen both MPS I and MPS II. States and territories will work collaboratively with the Commonwealth to ensure NBS programs are ready for implementation.

Health Ministers supported MSAC's recommendation not to introduce newborn bloodspot screening for Pompe disease at this time. This was because MSAC advised the current screening tests and diagnostic tests (including genetic tests) will mostly identify babies who may develop the late-onset form of Pompe disease that shows symptoms in adulthood. MSAC considered there to be a greater potential for harm than benefit from NBS for these children. The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing will continue to monitor emerging evidence relating to newborn screening for Pompe disease and reconsider its decision if appropriate.