

Newborn Screening Ontario (NSO) is the provincial program responsible for coordinating blood-based and point-of-care screening for all newborns in Ontario.

In 2025, NSO conducted a survey to assess healthcare provider satisfaction, evaluate the impact of screening services, and identify future opportunities, with a focus on awareness of NSO overall and experiences with the recently introduced Biliary Atresia screening initiative.

DÉPISTAGE  
NÉONATAL  
ONTARIO



NEWBORN  
SCREENING  
ONTARIO

## HOW DO HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS FEEL ABOUT NSO?

**OVER 85%** of healthcare providers have a **positive impression** of NSO

**OVER 90%** of healthcare providers reported that **NSO is effective at coordinating newborn screening** in Ontario



## HOW DO HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS FEEL ABOUT NEWBORN SCREENING?

**OVER 95%** of healthcare providers felt that **newborn screening in Ontario is effective**



### How can we improve Newborn Screening?



Increase healthcare provider awareness of:

- **Existing educational resources** for parents and providers
- Ways to **access screening results**

Learn more on the **NSO Submitter Hub**



## HOW DO HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS FEEL ABOUT THE NEW BILIARY ATRESIA SCREENING PROGRAM?

In January 2023, NSO started providing parents with an Infant Stool Colour Card (ISCC) at birth to help parents screen for biliary atresia, a rare but serious liver condition that often presents as pale stool during the first four weeks of life.

**80%** of healthcare providers felt the Biliary Atresia Screening Program **provided accessible and clear screening guidelines**



**Over 90%** of healthcare providers reported that the Biliary Atresia Screening Program has caused **minimal or no increase in their workload**

### How can the Biliary Atresia Screening Program be improved?

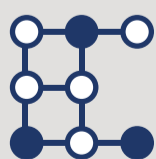
Healthcare providers can strengthen family education by:

- **Showing the ISCC** to parents (don't just tuck it into info packages)
- **Explaining the purpose and importance** of the Biliary Atresia Screening Program
- **Reminding parents to bring the ISCC** to appointments if they choose to also see their healthcare provider about pale stool

NSO can **increase awareness and education** about the Biliary Atresia Screening Program **for healthcare providers who are not directly involved** in the program.



Impact Assessment by:



The  
Evidence  
Network



[www.theevidencenetwork.com](http://www.theevidencenetwork.com)

The Evidence Network & Amplify Engagement conducted the survey of healthcare providers from May to October 2025. A representative sample of 609 providers from across Ontario completed the survey. Providers were reached through newsletters, professional networks, and outreach across a wide range of healthcare settings. The respondent sample was comprised of healthcare providers who conduct the newborn screening tests, as well as providers who care for new mothers and newborns but who are not directly involved in the screening process. Among the providers who conduct the screening tests, 56% were Registered Nurses and 35% were Registered Midwives. The other group of healthcare providers was comprised of 40% Registered Nurses and 25% Family Physicians. Together, their perspectives help inform decisions about the province's newborn screening program.