Pulse oximetry (POX) screening for congenital heart defects in newborns


Record Status
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Citation

Authors' objectives
What is the diagnostic accuracy for pulse oximetry in screening of asymptomatic newborns before discharge from the well baby nursery and does pulse oximetry screening, alone or in addition to physical examination, lead to increased detection of critical congenital heart disease and reduced mortality and morbidity?

Authors' conclusions
POX screening is a non-invasive method with a good diagnostic accuracy to detect CCHD in asymptomatic newborns before discharge from the well baby nursery. There are still insufficient data to evaluate whether this also will affect mortality and morbidity. The costs associated with an introduction of the method at Sahlgrenska University Hospital are estimated to be around 800,000 SEK during the first year, and thereafter the annual cost will be somewhat lower.

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