



Compulsory invitations
to take

Childhood Early Screening Tests

What is the mission of the **Central Office** at the Charité?

The Central Office (“Zentrale Stelle”) was appointed by the Senate to deal with invitations and responses. It is tasked with ensuring that children take part in early screening tests. In order to achieve this, it has to reconcile various data:

- The Central Office receives data for children who have their main residence in Berlin and who should be involved in the tests.
- Data for newborn babies with their assigned screening ID numbers is transferred from the screening laboratory.
- The Central Office receives the test certification from the Berlin paediatrician, who is authorised and obliged to pass on details of participation in the test to the Central Office immediately. If the test is carried out outside the federal state of Berlin, the parents of the tested child should send the test certificate to the Central Office.

The Central Office can tell from this data which children have not yet been tested by an established date. It invites parents to present their children for testing and informs them about the details and purpose of each test.

If, after a certain period of time has elapsed since the invitation was sent out and no test certificate has been recorded, the Central Office informs the Child and Youth Health Service (“Kinder- und Jugendgesundheitsdienst” or “KJGD”) about which children have not been tested. The parents of these children will be paid a home visit by the KJGD and will be offered advice and support where necessary.

The procedure is arranged so that no medical information is passed on to the Central Office. The procedure has been approved by the Berlin data protection office.

Parents and Guardians, don't be surprised, therefore, if you receive notification that you have missed an early screening test. Please take it as a helpful reminder of a test that makes sense for your child.

**We wish you and your child all the best
for the future!**

Do you have any further questions?

Website
<http://rueckmeldewesen-kinderuntersuchungen.charite.de>
www.berlin.de/kindergesundheit
E-mail zentralestelle@charite.de
Tel. +49 450 566 022



For the protection
and welfare of
children in Berlin





Berlin is boosting its child protection and child health

Every child needs a good start in life. Health is everything in this respect. In Germany, there is therefore a range of early screening tests, which help to detect any developmental disabilities and illnesses at an early stage.

This allows any necessary treatment to be introduced in time.

We would like to give every child in Berlin a good start in life and want every child to take part in all the tests.

Berlin has therefore passed a child protection act. Parents who do not take up the voluntary early screening test (U4-U9) will be invited to present their child for testing.

Why is it important that everyone takes part in the tests?

Because these tests allow the early detection of development disabilities and illnesses and therefore allow them to be treated in time. Also, some disabilities and illnesses can only be detected after a certain age and so the timing and content of each individual early screening test is adapted accordingly. Even if the results have always been normal until now, it is therefore important that all tests are carried out.

The early detection of any problems in the development of babies and small children is extremely important, since the first few years of the child's life are crucial for the healthy development of the child. However, medical check-ups are also important for older children. They ensure that children, who have difficulties for example with their speech, sight, hearing or concentration, can be provided with assistance at an early stage and therefore given a good start at nursery school or school.

In order to protect children from dangerous infectious diseases, immunisations are regularly checked.

So:

Please make sure you take up all the early screening offers for the benefit of your child!

What is the child health record book used for?

This book is used to record the results of the early screening tests. Every mother is given one of these child health record books ("Untersuchungsheft") for her child when she leaves the maternity clinic.

People moving to Germany from abroad will be given the record book by their paediatrician. The child health record book must be kept somewhere safe and presented to the paediatrician at every early screening test.

What is a screening ID and what is it used for?

The screening ID (SC-ID) is an anonymous numerical code. It is made up of a twelve-figure sequence of numbers with three test figures.

Since 1 April 2010, all newborn babies have been given an SC-ID form (labels with bar code stickers) at the maternity clinic along with the child health record book.

The SC-ID is used for newborn screening and for the invitation and response process.