



## *What is Public Health Genetics and Genomics?*

# PHGGW

**Public Health Genetics and Genomics Week** seeks to educate the public on how public health and genetics/genomics interacts. Let's walk through how someone can be impacted by public health genetics in their life: Baby Noah is born a happy and healthy. While he is still in the hospital he undergoes **newborn screening** -his hearing and heart are checked, and his heel is pricked for a blood sample that is sent off to a lab. Noah's newborn screening comes back **out-of-range for a condition known as PKU** and his family and pediatrician are notified. His pediatrician utilizes the **PKU ACT sheet** so they know what next steps are needed to provide care for Noah as well as the basics of PKU. Noah meets with a **geneticist and genetic counselor** who arranges for **genetic testing** for Noah; a lab reviews the results and confirms he has PKU. The genetic counselor helps the family to understand how this occurred and the chance for recurrence in future children. Noah is now on a specialized PKU diet and meets with a **metabolic dietitian** throughout his life. Noah's parent's reach out to different **non-profit organizations** for more resources and to get in touch with **families who also are affected** by PKU. Noah's journey embodies the intersection of public health and genetics. We hope you stick with us this week to learn more about the ways in which public health genetics has an impact!

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