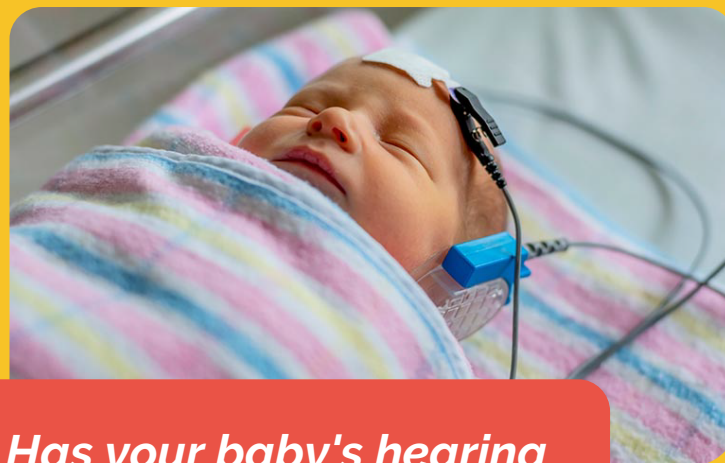


The Who, What, and Why of Newborn Hearing Screening



Who?

Your baby, and every baby born in Indiana, should be screened for hearing loss before your baby leaves the hospital or by one month of age. If your baby does not pass the hearing screening in the hospital, it is important to have a follow up hearing test done by 3 months of age. Please call the Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) Program at 317-232-0886 or 317-232-0888. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may access Relay Indiana to assist you with this call at 711, if needed.



Has your baby's hearing been screened?

quick, easy,

What?

A hearing screening checks to see if your baby's hearing is normal or if more testing is needed. The screening is and can be done while your baby sleeps or rests quietly. Two ways to screen hearing are OAE (Otoacoustic Emissions) and ABR (Auditory Brainstem Response). Both of these are safe and do not hurt your baby.

- ☐ The OAE is done by putting a tiny microphone in each of your baby's ears, and checking each ear's response to sounds.
- ☐ The ABR is done by putting three electrodes on your baby's head and checking the brain's response to sounds played in your baby's ears.

Why?

If not found early, hearing loss can delay the normal growth of your baby's speech and language skills. About every 48 hours, a baby is born in Indiana with hearing loss. Hearing loss cannot be seen. Your baby cannot tell you if he or she cannot hear your voice and other important sounds.

If a hearing loss is present, there is hope and help available. Research shows that babies born with hearing loss who are identified before 3 months of age and receive interventions by 6 months of age have a good chance of learning and developing speech and language like other babies.

Questions?

Call or text the Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) Program at 317-832-3964 or go online to www.hearing.in.gov. We can answer questions about your baby's hearing. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may access Relay Indiana to assist you with a TDD call at 711, if needed. Your primary care provider can help. This is your baby's doctor or other medical provider who helps keep your child healthy and oversees your child's medical needs. For assistance with obtaining health insurance or resources for your family, call the MCH MOMS HELPLINE at 1-844-MCH-MOMS (844-624-6667). Or go online to <http://www.MomsHelpLine.isdh.in.gov>.



EARLY HEARING DETECTION
AND INTERVENTION
www.hearing.in.gov

Hearing Screening Results

The Early Hearing Detection & Intervention Program
(EHDI)



Your baby, _____, born _____
(name) (birthdate)

received a hearing screening on _____ at _____
(date) (hospital/clinic)

Results of your baby's hearing screening (circle one):

Right ear: *Pass* *Did not pass* *Pass with Risk Factor*

Left ear: *Pass* *Did not pass* *Pass with Risk Factor*

Your baby's risk factor is: _____

- **Passed** - Your baby likely has normal hearing.
- **Did not pass** - Your baby needs a hearing test done by a pediatric audiologist within 3 months. **Follow up hearing test facility:**

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____

- **Passed with risk factors** - Your baby should have follow-up hearing testing done by an audiologist within the first year.

Risk factors that can lead to hearing loss in childhood

Children with these risk factors should have periodic hearing tests in early childhood to monitor their hearing levels. Some risk factors for hearing loss include:

- A family history of children with hearing loss
- Exposure to certain infections before birth (i.e. CMV, syphilis, herpes, rubella)
- Head, face, or ears are shaped differently
- Hyperbilirubinemia requiring transfusion
- Neurological (involves the brain) conditions associated with hearing loss
- Meningitis (an infection that affects the brain and spinal cord)
- Head injury that require a hospital stay
- Ototoxic medications (medicines that can hurt hearing), such as certain antibiotics
- Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) stay for 5 or more days after birth

If you have questions about any of the risk factors listed above, or if you are worried about your child's hearing, talk to your child's doctor or call or text the EHDI program at 317-832-3964 or visit www.hearing.in.gov.