



Indiana State
Department of Health
An Equal Opportunity Employer

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
Governor

Judith A. Monroe, M.D.
State Health Commissioner

Re: Your Primary Care Provider Toolkit for (Child's name)

Dear Dr. _____ :

You have been identified as the Primary Care Provider (PCP) for this child. The child listed above was recently identified as having a hearing loss through Indiana's Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI, said "Eddie") program.

As a PCP, you play a critical role in whether this child receives timely, appropriate follow-up. The news that a child is deaf or hard of hearing is often unexpected and may be a very difficult time for the family. In addition to encouraging the parents to love and attend to this child in the same way that all growing children need, your assistance in making sure the family receives adequate support through your practice (the child's Medical Home) is important.

To assist you, we have included the following enclosures:

- *A PCP/Medical Home Care Management Checklist*
- *"1-3-6" PCP Patient Care Plan Documentation*
- *Resources for Providers and Parents*
- *A Guide-By-Your-Side brochure: free parent to parent support program for families of children that are deaf or hard of hearing*
- *A Parent's Guide to Hearing Loss: CD and Infant Hearing Screening DVD*

Indiana's goal is to meet the American Academy of Pediatrics recommendations of "1-3-6".

- *All babies should be screened at birth or certainly before 1 month of age.*
- *Those babies who do not pass the newborn hearing screening should received a confirmed diagnosis before 3 months of age.*
- *Those babies who are confirmed to have a hearing loss should be enrolled in early intervention services before 6 months of age.*

This child's parent has also just received their own toolkit, which is much larger and contains materials quite different from your own. As stated by the Joint Committee on Infant Hearing, the role of the primary care provider is "to work in partnership with parents and other professionals." If this family is not already scheduled for a visit to your office, you may want to contact them by phone or schedule a visit to make sure that appropriate follow-up is set to occur.

While most children with a hearing loss will be identified through Universal Newborn Hearing Screening (UNHS), hearing loss may have an onset after the newborn period. You will find a list of risk factors for acquired hearing loss on one of the enclosures. Also, any time a parent expresses concern about their child's hearing, a referral to an audiologist should be considered.

Questions? Visit the EHDI website (www.hearing.IN.gov) or contact Gayla Hutsell Guignard.

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