

LISTEN FROM EAR TO EAR TIPS OF THE MONTH

December 2011

Issue VI

NEWBORN HEARING
SCREENING PROGRAM (NHSP)

Email:
DebbieE@health.ok.gov

Oklahoma's Loss to Follow-up/Documentation Is this a great state or what?????

The primary purpose of tracking, reporting, and follow-up in a state's Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) program is to ensure that all babies are screened and that those in need of further testing, evaluation, or intervention, receive comprehensive, appropriate, and timely services. Equally important, however, is that data generated through a comprehensive reporting, tracking, and follow-up system provides the basis for measuring a state's EHDI program's effectiveness, validity, progress, outcomes, strengths, and weaknesses. In Oklahoma, the EHDI program is housed at the Oklahoma Newborn Hearing Screening Program at the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

"Loss to follow-up" (LTFU) is a challenging issue facing the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) system nationally. LTFU occurs when a baby does not receive the recommended follow-up services. Another group of babies about which EHDI programs are missing data are those classified as "loss to documentation" (LTD) Babies in this group are those who have received services, but results have not been reported to the EHDI program, and therefore, cannot be documented. EHDI programs around the country are working diligently to reduce the numbers babies that are LTFU/LTD.

As a follow-up provider, you are a key stakeholder! To ensure that infants receive services, please report all hearing results of children seen at your location.

Oklahoma is doing a great job in facing this challenging issue!!!!!!

Oklahoma has improved from ~40% LTFU/LTD in 2006 to 10.8% LTFU/LTD in 2009

OK Steps to Success

- Hiring a Follow-up/Audiology Coordinator
- Providing gold standard hearing equipment and in-services to Oklahoma Birthing Hospitals
- Conducting County Health Department trainings
- Linking with SoonerStart Part C/Child Guidance/Nursing/Children First services to provide hearing screenings to infants statewide
- Partnering with public and private entities to ensure all children receive appropriate follow-up
- Reminding providers that consistent reporting helps reduce parent confusion and stress
- Promoting awareness of state law indicating requirements for reporting of all hearing results for children birth to three years
- Requesting results for all children seen (even if results are inconclusive) to document services

National LTF/LTD Top Contenders

National Range: 3.8%-98%

(Number of infants who did not pass screening
and did not return for screening)

5th Place: Oklahoma (10.8%)

4th Place: Indiana (7.4%)

3rd Place: Georgia (6.6%)

2nd Place: Pennsylvania (5.5%)

Winner: Massachusetts (3.8%)



EVENT OF THE MONTH



HEARTS FOR HEARING
Holiday Celebration

Saturday, December 10, 2011
10:00-11:45 am

OK CityScape
1100 N. Broadway, OKC
RSVP: December 7th
(405)548-4300

Bring your favorite holiday cookies

TIP OF THE MONTH:

Reporting

- Pre-program your fax to 405-271-4892 and send all reports immediately
- Have Hearing Result Forms available next to equipment
- Send Hearing Result Forms via email, fax, or mail
- Request extra pre-paid/addressed envelopes from Newborn Hearing