

LISTEN FROM EAR TO EAR TIPS OF THE MONTH

May
Issue X

NEWBORN HEARING
SCREENING PROGRAM

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Are The Hearing Aids Working Today?

How does a hearing aid work?

- **Microphone:** Picks up sound from the environment, converts to electrical signal, and sends it to the amplifier
- **Amplifier :** Increases volume of the sound, sends it to the receiver
- **Receiver :** Changes the electrical signal back into acoustic signal and sends it to the ear, then those impulses are sent to the brain
- **Battery:** Power source

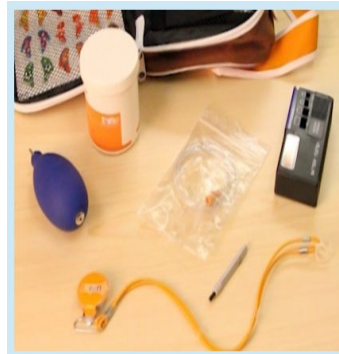
*Always remember that the earmold is also a very important part of the **amplification system***

How do I take care of the hearing aid(s)?

If you are not already, you may soon be serving a child with hearing loss. Hearing aids need detailed attention and maintenance on a daily basis. Functioning hearing aids are imperative to ensure children have the optimal access to sound. Young children will not be able to tell you when there is a problem, so it is up to parents, teachers, and other providers to be responsible for the maintenance of hearing aids daily.

Common maintenance includes:

- Listening to the amplified sound
- Checking and changing the battery
- Be aware of the risk of children swallowing batteries. The Poison Control number for Oklahoma is 1-800-222-1222
- Cleaning blockage/moisture from the earmold
- Use the **Ling 6 Sound Test** to check hearing aid



An audiologist can order a hearing aid care kit for you, caretakers, and other providers that includes:

- A listening stethoscope used to listen to the amplified sound
- A battery tester
- A wire loop and brush to remove wax from the earmold
- An air blower to remove moisture from the earmold tubing



Tip of the Month:

The Ling-6 Sound Test

- Represents different speech sounds from low-high pitch
- Helps to check if child has access to full range of speech sounds with hearing aids or cochlear implants
- The phonemes in the Ling-6 Sound test are /m/ /oo/ /ee/ /ah/ /sh/ /s/
- Present each sound individually and randomly, at a normal distance
- Use a normal speaking voice, sit beside/behind the child, or cover your mouth
- www.cochlear.com for instructions

Event of the Month

New Audiologist

Kristin Koberr, M.S., CCC-A

Claremore Indian Hospital

Beginning June 4, 2012