

About

What is infant hearing screening?

A quick, harmless and effective way to determine if your baby can hear sounds needed for speech and language. If hearing loss is detected, early intervention can begin.

How is hearing screened?

While your baby is resting, tiny earplugs or earphones are used to test hearing. Soft sounds are played as a computer records brainwave responses to see if the sounds are heard.

Why should my baby's hearing be screened?

Babies cannot tell us if they can hear. Any degree of hearing loss can negatively impact your child's speech, language, social and emotional development, and academic success. Children who receive early intervention (before 6 months of age) can develop language skills similar to their hearing peers.

QUACK
QUACK

Screening Results

"PASS"

Hearing is sufficient for language development.

"REFER" (in one or both ears)
Additional testing is needed immediately.

Risk Factors

Hearing loss can occur any time after birth. If your baby has any of the following, hearing should be checked again:

- family history of deafness
- admittance to a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) for 24+ hours
- various illnesses including Cytomegalovirus (CMV)
- ear infections or middle ear fluid

tick
tock
tick
tock

Oink

Hooo
Hooo

VRROOM

Choo
Choo



Hearing Development

Your baby should be able to achieve the following milestones around the ages listed. If you have concerns, contact a pediatric audiologist for additional hearing testing.

0-3 months

- startled by loud sounds
- quiets to your voice
- makes cooing sounds

3-6 months

- turns eyes toward sounds
- responds to mom's voice
- enjoys rattles
- babbles "ba-ba" or "ga-ga"

6-10 months

- turns head toward sounds
- begins to imitate speech sounds
- babbles more frequently

9-12 months

- responds to own name
- understands "no-no" & "bye-bye"
- turns head toward soft sounds

12-15 months


- correctly uses "ma-ma" & "da-da"
- points to familiar objects when asked
- responds to singing/music



Sound Bytes

- **One in 300** babies are born with permanent hearing loss.
- Up to **95** percent of babies with hearing loss are born to hearing parents.
- The **first two** years of life are critical for brain development.
- Babies can hear up to **one million** words a month — therefore every month counts!

Newborn Hearing Screening Program
800.766.2223 (TF) • <http://nhsp.health.ok.gov>

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