

The
earlier
a child with
hearing loss is
identified,
the less effect
the loss will
have on
his or her
future.

Newborn hearing screening results are
reported to the state
Department of Public Health.

For more information about
Newborn Hearing Screening or
services available contact the:

CT Department of Public Health
Early Hearing Detection and
Intervention Program
410 Capitol Avenue, MS # 11 MAT
P.O. Box 340308
Hartford, CT 06134-0308
Voice (860) 509-8074
Fax (860) 509-8132
<http://www.ct.gov/dph/ehdi>
or
Child Development Infoline
1-800-505-7000



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Listen up!



**Early Hearing Detection &
Intervention (EHDI) Program**

Connecticut
Department of Public Health

Newborn Hearing Screening

All babies born in CT have their hearing screened at birth.

Why are babies screened at birth?

Hearing loss is the most common occurring disability in newborns. Newborn hearing screening is a way of identifying infants who need further testing in order to determine their ability to hear sounds. Children who have a hearing loss can have developmental delays. With early hearing detection and intervention, babies will not lose precious listening and language learning time.

What causes hearing loss in infants?

There are many reasons why an infant may be born with a hearing loss. Some examples include: genetics, a family history of hearing loss, or an infection in the mother while pregnant.

Some babies may pass the hearing screen at birth but be at risk for developing a hearing loss later on. If your baby has risk factors for hearing loss, your child's doctor should suggest more frequent checks of his/her hearing.

How are babies screened?

A soft sound is sent into the baby's ear. One of two quick and painless methods is used to measure how the baby's ear responds to that sound. A second screen is done in the hospital if your baby does not pass the first screen.

What if my baby needs more testing?

If your baby does not pass the screenings you should have your baby seen by an audiologist (a person trained to test hearing) as soon as possible. The nursery staff or your baby's doctor will assist you to find an audiologist that works with infants.

What if my baby has a hearing loss?

Your baby will be referred to Birth to Three (1-800-505-7000) for a free developmental evaluation. For more information about CT Birth to Three visit: www.birth23.org

Speech, Hearing and Behavior Checklist*

Birth - 3 Months

- Startled by loud sounds
- Soothed by caretaker's voice

3 - 6 Months

- Reacts to the sound of your voice
- Turns eyes and head in the directions of the source of sounds
- Enjoys rattles and noisy toys

7 - 10 Months

- Responds to his/her own name
- Understands "mama," "dada," "no," "bye bye"
- Turns head toward familiar sounds, such as dog barking, telephone, person's voice



10 - 15 Months

- Imitates and matches sounds
- Locates or points to familiar objects when asked
- Understands and responds to simple questions, such as "Where's the dog?"

15 - 18 Months

- Identifies things in response to questions, such as parts of the body
- Uses a few single words, while not complete or perfectly pronounced, the words should be clearly meaningful
- Follows simple spoken directions

2 Years

- Understands yes and no questions
- Enjoys being read to and shown pictures in books; points to pictures upon request
- Likes radio or television
- Puts words together to make simple sentences, such as "Juice all gone" or "Go bye-bye car."
- Follows simple commands such as "Bring me that ball."



2 ½ Years

- Says or sings short rhymes and songs and enjoys music
- Knows about 270 words

3 Years

- Understands and uses simple verbs, pronouns and adjectives:
 - Go, Come, run, sing
 - Me, you, him, her
 - Big, green, sweet
- Often uses complete sentences
- Knows about 1000 words

* Remember, a pass result means that your baby's hearing is normal at the time of the screening. A hearing loss can develop over time, for many reasons. If at any time you have concerns about your child's speech or hearing, talk to your baby's doctor about having his/her hearing tested.