

APPOINTMENT CARDS

Audiology Facilities

The following audiology centers have the specialized equipment and experience to conduct hearing testing in infants and children:

Connecticut Children's Medical Center
Hartford*, Farmington, and Glastonbury, CT.
(860) 545-9642 or (860) 837-6300

Lawrence & Memorial Hospital
Waterford, CT. (860) 271-4900

UConn Speech & Hearing Clinic
Storrs, CT. (860) 486-2629

Yale New Haven Children's Hospital
New Haven* and Trumbull, CT. (877) 925-3637

**Denotes hospital-based audiology centers.*

Or, visit www.ehdi-pals.org for a list of pediatric audiologists by location.

Circle the facility above and fill out below:

Date: _____ Time: _____

cCMV Specialists

Connecticut Children's Medical Center
Infectious Diseases and Immunology
Hartford, CT (860) 545-9490

Yale New Haven Children's Hospital
Pediatric Infectious Diseases
New Haven, CT (877) 925-3637

Circle the facility above and fill out below:

Date: _____ Time: _____



Connecticut Department of Public Health Early Hearing Detection and Intervention

410 Capitol Avenue, MS # 11 MAT
P.O. Box 340308

Hartford, CT 06134-0308

Voice: (860) 509-8251

Secure Fax: (860) 629-6965

Telecommunications Relay Service 7-1-1

<https://portal.ct.gov/ehdi>

For more information about hearing screening and testing for cCMV:



For more information about free services for infants and young children who have cCMV or are deaf or hard of hearing, contact:

Connecticut Birth to Three System

1-800-505-7000

www.birth23.org

None of the information contained herein is intended to replace advice by a healthcare professional.

This brochure is for birthing staff to give to the parent/guardian of any infant that fails their newborn hearing screening.

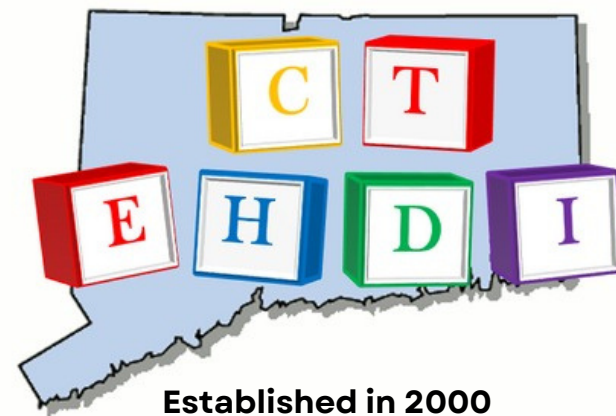
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Rev. 05/01/2024

Replaces: "Your Baby Needs Another Hearing Test/CMV"

Your Baby Needs: A CMV Test and a Hearing Test

**Congenital CMV and Hearing Testing
FAQs for Parents and Caregivers**



Established in 2000

**Connecticut Department of Public Health
Early Hearing Detection &
Intervention (EHDI) Program**

Voice: (860) 509-8251 Fax: (860) 629-6965

<https://portal.ct.gov/ehdi>

My baby failed their newborn hearing screening...

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO RIGHT NOW?

Step 1: Before leaving the birth facility, be sure your baby was tested for congenital Cytomegalovirus (cCMV). Congenital CMV may harm your baby. Birth facilities are required by law* to test for cCMV when a baby fails their newborn hearing screening. Your baby must be tested before 21 days of age to determine if it is congenital. Ask birth facility or pediatrician for results.

Step 2: Schedule a diagnostic hearing test with an audiologist that specializes in pediatric cases today! This test is far more comprehensive than the screening done at birth and is the only way to know if a hearing loss is present. Barring any medical exceptions, your baby should complete their hearing testing before three months of age. To find an audiologist, see the included "**Audiology Facilities**" list.

*In 2025, a new law will require ALL babies to be tested for cCMV at birth.

Risk Factors for Hearing Loss

If any of the below have occurred/are present, have your child's hearing monitored regularly due to the increased risk of a hearing loss developing later on:

- **Congenital Cytomegalovirus (CMV).**
- Caregiver concern regarding hearing, speech, language, developmental delay, or regression.
- Family history of childhood hearing loss.
- Syndromes: Please visit: www.hereditaryhearingloss.org.
- Ototoxic medicines or antibiotics in the Aminoglycosides family (gentamicin).
- In utero infections, such as herpes, rubella, syphilis, toxoplasmosis, Zika, etc.
- NICU stay greater than 5 days.
- Skull or facial malformations, microcephaly, microtia, atresia, or head trauma.
- Hyperbilirubinemia exchange transfusion.
- Asphyxia/Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy.
- Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation.
- Chemotherapy.

More Information About Congenital CMV

What is Cytomegalovirus (CMV)?

CMV is a common virus that usually causes little to no harm in healthy people.

What is congenital Cytomegalovirus (cCMV)?

When CMV occurs during pregnancy and infects the unborn baby, it is called *Congenital Cytomegalovirus (cCMV)* and may harm the hearing, vision, and developmental abilities of an unborn baby.

What if my baby has congenital CMV?

Ask your pediatrician for expedited referrals to:

- **Pediatric Infectious Diseases.** They can discuss treatment options (timing is critical, don't delay) and may also refer to other specialties. See the enclosed "**cCMV Specialists**" list.
- **Audiology.** Hearing loss is very common in cCMV cases. It can be present at birth or develop later. The first two years of life is a critical period for language learning and regularly scheduled hearing tests are essential. Use the "**Audiology Facilities**" list to schedule an appointment today.
- **Ophthalmology.** A physical eye exam may be needed.
- **Birth to Three.** Self-refer to the Connecticut Birth to Three System (**800-505-7000** or www.birth23.org) for free developmental services for children up to three years old.

Reduce the FUTURE Risk of CMV Exposure:

According to the National CMV Foundation, those who are or plan on becoming pregnant, or who work in childcare or healthcare should practice the following to reduce the risk of contracting or spreading CMV:

- Do not share food, utensils, drinks, or straws.
- Do not put a pacifier in your mouth.
- Avoid contact with saliva when kissing a child.
- Do not share a toothbrush.
- Wash your hands after:
- Wiping a young child's nose or drool.
- Changing diapers.
- Feeding a young child.
- Handling children's toys.

More Information About Hearing Testing

Why is the early diagnosis of hearing loss so critical to my baby's future?

Babies' brains try to make sense out of the sounds that reach their ears during the course of everyday events. This is the beginning of language development. The earlier a baby with hearing loss is DIAGNOSED and receives hearing-related INTERVENTION services, the more likely they are to reach their full social, emotional, and intellectual potential.

"I think my baby can hear; I'm going to wait to have their hearing tested."

DON'T WAIT! Hearing testing should be done as soon as possible after birth, but before three months of age. Many babies with hearing loss can hear some sounds but not enough to develop speech and language properly. You cannot tell by watching and interacting with your baby if they can hear ALL the sounds needed to learn language. Diagnostic hearing testing is the only way to know for sure if your baby has a hearing loss.

What if my baby passes their hearing test?

All children who PASS their hearing screening or hearing test should be screened again, at least once, before 36 months old to catch a late onset of hearing loss that may have otherwise gone unnoticed.

What if my baby has a hearing loss or develops one later?

Contact the **Connecticut Birth to Three System (800-505-7000 or www.birth23.org)** for free hearing services for children up to three years old. It is recommended to enroll as soon as possible or before six months of age. Also, the **American School for the Deaf (860-570-2393 or www.asd-1817.org)** has contracted with the EHDI program to provide free family-to-family and other family-focused supports.