



Michigan Early Hearing Detection
and Intervention Program

**Michigan
Early Hearing Detection
& Intervention Program**

Newborn Hearing Screening



**INFORMATION FOR
NEW PARENTS**

For more information, please contact:

Michigan E.H.D.I.

P.O. Box 30195

Lansing, MI 48909

(V) 517.335.8955

(F) 517.335.8036

www.michigan.gov/ehdi



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WHO HAS A HEARING SCREEN?

All newborns are required to have a newborn hearing screening.

HOW IS THE HEARING SCREENING DONE?

There are two tests used to screen hearing. Both tests are quick, simple and safe. It is helpful for your baby to be asleep or lying quietly while the screening is being done.

▪ **A-ABR: Automated—Auditory Brainstem Response**

Three patches are placed on the baby's face, cheek and neck. Soft sounds are played that your baby can hear through earphones. The patches record a brain wave that is related to hearing.

-OR-

▪ **OAE: Otoacoustic Emissions**

Soft foam or rubber tips are placed inside the baby's ears and the baby hears soft sounds. A tiny echo from the inner ear is measured.

WHERE IS THE SCREENING DONE?

Most of the time, the hearing screening is done before your baby leaves the hospital. If you choose a home birth, ask your doctor where to have a screening done. This screening should be done no later than one month of age.

WHAT DOES A PASS MEAN?

▪ **PASS:**

A "pass" most likely means that your baby's hearing is normal. A pass does NOT mean that your baby's hearing will never change. Talk to your doctor to see if your child is at risk for developing hearing loss later or if you have concerns about their hearing (see checklist).

WHAT DOES A REFER MEAN?

▪ **NON-PASS / REFER:**

If your baby does not pass the screening, another test will be scheduled. Do not be alarmed, BUT DO NOT WAIT! Make sure your baby's hearing is retested before one month of age.

What is Newborn Hearing Screening...

...AND WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT?

Newborn hearing screening can find possible hearing loss in the first days of a baby's life.

For most families, hearing plays an important part in learning how to communicate.

If hearing loss is suspected, more tests will be done to make sure of the results.

If a hearing loss is found, early intervention (help) for you and your child can start right away.



SPEECH AND HEARING DEVELOPMENTAL CHECKLIST		
Months of Age	Average Developmental Milestones	
Does your child... Yes No		
0 - 2	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Quiet down when hearing a familiar voice. Jump or blink to loud sounds. Make vowel sounds like ohh, ahh.
2 - 4	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Turn eyes or head to search for a sound. Use sounds such as squeals, whimpers, chuckles.
4 - 6	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Turn head toward sound. Babble ba-ba, ma-ma, da-da.
6 - 9	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Imitate speech sounds of others. Understand no-no or bye-bye. Turn head toward soft sounds. Respond to name.
9 - 12	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Understand and follow simple directions. Correctly use ma-ma. Respond to singing or music.
If you answer NO to any of these questions, DON'T WAIT! Tell your doctor if your child has not met these suggested monthly goals. Have your child's hearing tested.		

WHERE DO YOU GO FOR FOLLOW-UP SCREENING?

Most of the time, the hospital will schedule your baby's next hearing screen. If they do not, speak with your doctor. You can also contact the MI Early Hearing Detection & Intervention Program at **517-335-8955**.

www.michigan.gov/ehdi



WHAT IF MY INSURANCE WILL NOT PAY FOR HEARING SCREENS?

There are programs which can assist families in paying for hearing tests. Contact MI Early Hearing Detection & Intervention Program at **517-335-8955** for more information.

Follow-up testing is very important. If your baby has a hearing loss, knowing early is best.

TEST RESULTS

Find out the hearing screening results before you leave the hospital. If your baby did not pass the screening, ask what to do next. Ask the hospital staff to write your baby's test results here.

Keep this paper.

Other professionals who are caring for your child may ask to see the results.

Date of Screen:		

(Please Circle)		
Right Ear:	Pass	Fail
Left Ear:	Pass	Fail
Equipment:	OAE	A-ABR
Rescreen Appointment:		

Date:		

Time:		

Where:		
