

What is a newborn hearing screening?

- The newborn hearing screening is a test used to check your baby's hearing.
- The hearing test is safe and does not hurt your baby. Most babies sleep through it.

Why was my baby's hearing tested?

- Every baby must have a newborn hearing screening. It is the law.
- Newborn hearing loss is a common problem.
- The first years of your baby's life are the most important for learning speech and language. If they can't hear, they may not learn to speak.
- Testing allows hearing loss to be found early.

How is the test done?

- Stickers (sensors) are put on your baby's head, shoulder, and neck.
- A soft earphone that makes quiet sounds is put over your baby's ear.
- The sensors read the responses of your baby's hearing nerve.

What does the hearing screen tell us?

- The hearing screen looks for a mild hearing loss or greater.
- It is not a diagnosis.

ALERT: Call your child's doctor, nurse, or clinic if you have any questions or concerns or if your child has special health care needs that were not covered by this information.

This sheet was created to help you care for your child or family member. It does not take the place of medical care. Talk with your healthcare provider for diagnosis, treatment and follow-up.