

Newborn screening: Hearing screen

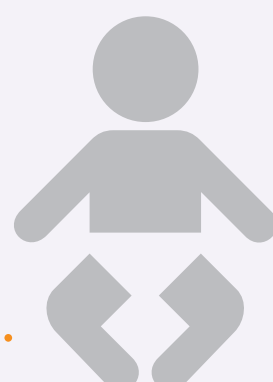
Three simple screens

1
BLOOD
SCREEN



3
HEART
SCREEN

A baby may **look healthy** but be **born with a hearing problem.**



All babies in the United States receive **newborn screening**. Each state decides which **conditions** to **screen** for.

Helps identify babies at risk for **hearing loss**. If found early, babies can be **referred** for additional **testing**.



Hearing screen process



Hearing screen

Before a baby leaves the **hospital**, a health care provider places a **soft earphone** in the baby's ear that plays sounds.

This checks how the baby's ear and brain respond to sound.



Lab results

If there are signs of hearing loss in one or both ears, the baby needs **more tests**.

The baby needs to be tested at **least 2 more times** in the **first month after birth**.



Follow-up

All hearing screening results should be reported to the baby's provider.

Positive screen:

- ✓ **Provider** should follow up with the **baby's family**.
- ✓ **Provider** refers the baby to a **pediatric audiologist** to evaluate the baby for **permanent hearing loss** before the **baby is 3 months old**.
- ✓ If the baby has hearing loss, provider refers the baby to an **early intervention program** before the baby is **6 months old**.

Negative screen:

- ✓ **Baby** is released from the hospital and **no additional testing** is needed.



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