

# Newborn Hearing Screening

All babies should receive a newborn hearing screening by one month of age. It is critical to identify hearing loss as early as possible. While in the hospital, your baby will have a hearing screen. There are two possible ways to screen a baby's hearing. Both tests are safe, quick and painless and are usually completed while the baby is sleeping.



## Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE)

measures the “echo” from the inner ear.

## Automated Auditory Brainstem Response (AABR)

measures the

“echo” from the inner ear.

*The results should be provided to you in writing while at the hospital along with recommendations.*



Genomics and Newborn Screening  
Program  
Indiana Department of Health  
[www.NBS.in.gov](http://www.NBS.in.gov)  
phone 888.815.0006

Early Hearing Detection & Intervention  
Program (EHDI)  
Indiana Department of Health  
[www.Hearing.in.gov](http://www.Hearing.in.gov)  
phone 317.232.0972

# Questions and answers about the screening



**Q.** What if my baby does not pass the hearing test?

**A.** This does not necessarily mean your baby has a hearing loss. If your baby doesn't pass the hearing screening, the hospital will refer you to a specific audiologist in your area who is able to complete a test of your baby's hearing to obtain more information. It is important that your baby receives this test. Our EHDI staff will contact you to assist you throughout the process.

**Q.** What happens if my baby is identified as deaf or hard of hearing?

**A.** EHDI, other organizations and professionals will support your family through the process of identification, provide parent to parent support from the Guide by Your Side program and refer you to First Steps, a program that can provide therapy and other services to maximize your child's potential.

More information? Please visit our website [www.hearing.in.gov](http://www.hearing.in.gov) or our Parent Consultants at 317-232-0886 ([LWolfe@isdh.in.gov](mailto:LWolfe@isdh.in.gov)) or 317-232-0888 ([JSwaim@isdh.in.gov](mailto:JSwaim@isdh.in.gov))

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Point your phone's camera at the QR code to access the website:

