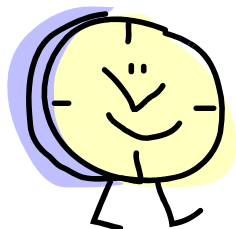


Your Baby's Hearing Screening

This information will help you prepare for your baby's hearing screening. The screening will take about 5-15 minutes and does not cause any discomfort for your baby. Your baby needs to be quiet or sleeping.



Before the Appointment

As you prepare for the appointment, here are a few tips:

- Take prepared bottles, if your baby uses these to feed.
- Pack a blanket, change of clothing, and diapers to keep your baby comfortable.
- Arrange care for siblings because the screening area needs to be very quiet.

At the Appointment

Arrive about 15 minutes early. Two different types of hearing screening tests are used to screen hearing in babies. Both of these tests are safe and comfortable.

Hearing screening is easy and is not painful. In fact, babies are often asleep while being screened.

Don't delay the diagnostic testing; it is easiest to test newborns. If you are not able to keep baby's appointment, please reschedule the diagnostic hearing test as soon as you can. It can take more than one appointment to complete the testing.

If a baby does not pass a hearing screening, it's very important to get a full diagnostic hearing test as soon as possible, but no later than 3 months of age.

Keeping Baby Awake

Keep your baby awake 1 - 2 hours before the appointment. If your baby falls asleep before screening, gently wake up the baby.

Tips to keep baby awake until the screen:

- Skip your baby's nap if it is close to the appointment time
- Entertain your baby with toys
- Tickle your baby
- Wash your baby's face
- Dab a cool cloth on your baby's skin
- Lightly blow on your baby's nose
- Gently wiggle your baby's arms or feet
- Blow raspberries on your baby's belly

When traveling a long distance, it can be hard to keep a baby awake. It may help to bring someone along to play with baby so he/she doesn't fall asleep before the testing is ready to begin.

