Your Baby's Hearing Test

This information will help you prepare for your baby's hearing test. The testing will take about 1-2 hours and does not cause any discomfort for your baby. Your baby needs to be asleep for the testing, so make sure your baby arrives hungry and tired but not 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 testing room needs to be very quiet.

At the Appointment

Arrive about 15 minutes early. Wait to feed your baby until you have been taken into the office. After your baby is sleeping, testing will begin. You will be with your baby during the entire test. Testing may take one or more hours depending on the state of your baby.

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

Testing can be completed while your baby is asleep. If your baby does not sleep, you may need to return for another appointment.

Keeping Baby Awake

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

Tips to keep baby awake until the test:

- 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.

For more information contact: Idaho Sound Beginnings-Early Hearing Detection & Intervention
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