



Your baby's follow-up hearing screening

What happens to the results?

The results of the screen and any further assessment needed will be discussed with you by the nurse. The screening results will be sent to Newborn and Children's Hearing to ensure that appropriate follow-up and referral can be arranged. The information will also help to monitor the quality of the program. All personal health information is confidential.

What if I can't attend an appointment to have my baby's hearing screen done?

If your baby misses a newborn hearing screening appointment please contact your local CaFHS clinic on 1300 733 606, Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.30pm to make an appointment to have your baby's hearing screening process completed. While every effort is made to ensure you and your baby are followed up in the community for newborn hearing screening to be completed, if you do not attend appointments made, after three attempts you will receive a letter from the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening program, advising you that your baby has been discharged from the program.

For more information

If you have any questions about the hearing screening program, or if you are anxious about your baby's screening results at any stage, further information and advice is available from:

**Newborn and Children's Hearing – the Universal Neonatal Hearing Screening Program, during business hours Monday to Friday
Telephone: (08) 8303 1585**

**Or you can view the Universal Neonatal Hearing Screening Program web page at:
www.cyh.sa.gov.au**

If you require this information in an alternative language or format please contact SA Health on the details provided above and they will make every effort to assist you.



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Information for parents
of newborn babies



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Today your baby's hearing was screened. As a result, your baby has been referred for a second hearing screen. This pamphlet explains why your baby needs a second hearing screen and what it will involve.

Why does my baby need another hearing screen?

Some babies need to have a second hearing screen because the first screen did not show a strong enough response from the baby's ears.

Some common reasons for needing another hearing screen are:

- > Your baby's ears were still too moist to respond to the first screen. It can take a few days for this moisture to dry.
- > There was some other matter which entered the ear canal during birth. This is very common and it will clear with time.
- > Your baby may have some degree of hearing loss.

Where will the second screen be done?

The second hearing screen will be done by a Child and Family Health Service (CaFHS) nurse.

What does the second screen involve?

The second hearing screen may take up to 30 minutes and you can stay with your baby while it is done. This screening process is not painful or uncomfortable and it is usually done while your baby is asleep or resting quietly.

You will be given the results of the test as soon as the test is completed.

My baby seems to be responding to sounds. Is a second screen really necessary?

Most babies are found to have no hearing impairment after the second screen, but it is still very important that your baby has the second screen. Babies who have a hearing impairment will still usually react to some sounds. If your baby does have a hearing impairment it is very important that you find out as soon as possible.

If your baby has a PASS result from the second hearing screening

This means that your baby almost certainly has good hearing.

The results of newborn hearing screening give a good indication of your baby's hearing at the time that the screening process is completed. Most children with permanent hearing impairment already have this condition from birth, but it is possible for a child to develop a hearing loss later because of inherited conditions, middle ear infections or certain other infections or illnesses.

If you have any concerns about your child's hearing, or speech and language at any time, talk to your doctor or community child and family health nurse.



If your baby has a REFER result from the second hearing screening

If your baby does not have a pass result from the second screen you will be referred to a paediatric audiologist (a specialist in testing the hearing of babies and children). This is a free service. The CaFHS nurse will discuss this with you.

What the audiologist will do

The audiologist will conduct a full hearing assessment. If there is a hearing impairment the test will show how much hearing loss there is and if it is likely to be temporary or permanent.

If appropriate the audiologist will refer you to other specialists, for example an ear, nose and throat specialist.