

EHDI E-MAIL EXPRESS

This is an e-mail communication from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) "Improving the Effectiveness of Newborn Hearing Screening, Diagnosis and Intervention through the Medical Home" project funded through cooperative agreements with the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD). It is designed to provide AAP Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Chapter Champions with resources and current clinical and other information. The EHDI E-Mail Express is sent on a monthly basis. Please feel free to share the EHDI E-Mail Express with colleagues working on or interested in childhood hearing detection and intervention issues. Distribution information appears on the last page.

MAY 2011

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FROM YOUR CHAIR



Let's talk partnership and collaboration.

No single entity — agency, resource, staff — can serve the complex needs of children with hearing loss. It's all about partnership when it comes to the strength and success of EHDI. Many professionals are involved at different levels in supporting infants and families following Newborn Hearing Screening (NHS).

Teams include healthcare providers, audiologists, services coordinators, early interventionists, other specialists, and families. Each contribute unique expertise while serving the family in collaboration with other team members. Visit the sites of a few partners to learn about their work and resources.

Organization/Entity	Web site
Alexander Graham Bell (AG Bell)	Web site
American Academy of Audiology	Web site
American Academy of Otolaryngology—Head & Neck Surgery	Web site
American Academy of Pediatrics	Web site
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association	Web site
AAP EHDI Chapter Champions	Web site
Boys Town National Research Hospital	Web site
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	Web site
Council on Education of the Deaf	Web site
Hands and Voices	Web site
HRSA Maternal and Child Health Bureau	Web site
Joint Committee on Infant Hearing	Web site
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners	Web site
National Center for Hearing Assessment & Management	Web site
National Institute on Deafness & Other Communication Disorders	Web site
State EHDI Coordinators	Web site

These are some of the many wonderful entities that work together to ensure that children with hearing loss and their families reach their full potential. It may take a village to raise a child but it takes each one of these partners to do what they do best to meet the challenges of a child with special needs.

Albert Mehl, MD

UPCOMING EVENTS

Event	Date	Location	Details
Various Genetics Alliance Events	June 2011	Washington, DC	Web site
EHDI Partnering for Progress	October 26—28, 2011	Raleigh, NC	Web site

GAO RELEASES REPORT ON DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING CHILDREN

On May 25, 2011 the US Government Accountability Office (GAO) released a report on federal support for developing language and literacy in deaf and/or hard of hearing children. The report stems from a study the GOA conducted to better understand how federal programs support deaf and hard of hearing children. The federal government recognizes that deaf and hard of hearing children can face significant challenges developing the language and literacy skills needed to succeed in school and become self-sufficient adults. The GAO was asked to examine the: (1) extent of hearing loss among children, (2) settings in which these children are educated, (3) factors that help deaf and hard of hearing children acquire language and literacy skills, and (4) challenges to providing appropriate interventions for these children. The GAO analyzed data on hearing loss; reviewed research literature; interviewed educators, national organizations, parents, and state and federal officials; and examined



relevant federal laws and regulations. A draft of this report was provided to the Departments of Education and Health and Human Services for review and comment. Each provided technical comments, which were incorporated into the report, as appropriate. Click on <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-11-357?source=ra> to read the full report.

ANNUAL GENETIC ALLIANCE EVENTS IN WASHINGTON, DC

Summer in DC means the annual Genetic Alliance events - Genetics Day on the Hill, Gene Screen, and the Annual Conference. The conference is earlier this year - June 23-26—instead of July. It's a great time for learning, sharing, and networking, with health professionals, researchers, individuals from industry, advocacy organization leaders, and more in attendance!

- Genetics Day on the Hill - <http://www.geneticalliance.org/geneticsday2011>
- Gene Screen - <http://www.geneticalliance.org/genescreen2011>
- Genetic Alliance Annual Conference - <http://www.geneticalliance.org/conference2011>



HIGH-VOLUME PORTABLE MUSIC PLAYERS MAY IMPAIR ABILITY TO CLEARLY DISCRIMINATE SOUNDS



New research demonstrates that listening to loud music through earphones for extended periods in noisy surroundings can cause neurophysiological changes related to clear discrimination of sounds, even if the hearing threshold is normal. The study was published in March in the open-access journal *PLoS One* and was a collaboration between Drs. Hidehiko Okamoto and Ryusuke Kakigi from the National Institute for Physiological Sciences, Japan, and Drs. Christo Pantev and Henning Teismann from the University of Muenster. The research group examined the brain's response to sound using the biomagnetism measurement device MEG (magnetoencephalography), which makes it possible to measure the brain activity without any subject's behavioral response. They recorded the brain responses of two groups of 13 young adults; one group had regularly listened to music at full blast, and the other group had not. Dr Okamoto concludes that “listening to music at high volumes burdens the nerves of the brain and auditory system and can cause a decline in the ability to discriminate sounds, even if the

usual hearing test results are normal and the subject is unaware of any changes. Therefore, it would be better to suppress environmental noises by using devices such as noise cancellers instead of turning up the volume when enjoying a mobile music player in a noisy place.” To read the full story visit: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2011/03/110309102150.htm>.

THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION ON SOCIAL MEDIA



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on has joined the social media landscape. Here's how you can jump on the bandwagon with them:

- ◆ Go to the CDC Facebook page at http://www.facebook.com/CDC?sk=app_10442206389 and click on “Like”
- ◆ Keep up with the CDC on Twitter <http://twitter.com/#!/CDCgov> and be sure to re-tweet any messages you like

REDUCING LOSS TO FOLLOW-UP IN PENNSYLVANIA

WHO'S INVOLVED?	WHERE CAN THEY BE REACHED?
AAP EHDI Chapter Champion: Robert Cicco, MD	E-mail: rcicco@aap.net
PA State EHDI Coordinator: Mary King-Maxey	E-mail: mkingmaxey@state.pa.us

WHAT HAVE THEY ACCOMPLISHED RECENTLY?

- ⇒ Free online CME course for physicians on the clinical detection and management of hearing loss using a case-based format.
- ⇒ PA EHDI website launched in May 2010 (www.paeearlyhearing.org).
- ⇒ Technical assistance via telephone to top 20 birth hospitals to review hearing screening procedures.
- ⇒ Onsite technical assistance to selected birth hospitals.
- ⇒ CME/CEU-accredited conference for medical home practices in Pennsylvania to educate physicians and practice staff on early hearing detection and intervention and their role in the EHDI program.
- ⇒ EHDI Care Coordination Plan developed as a tool for audiologists to give to families of children diagnosed with hearing loss help them keep track of medical, audiological, equipment and support services information.
- ⇒ Birth hospital workgroups via teleconference to share information and best practices on newborn hearing screening.
- ⇒ CME/CEU-accredited teleconference for primary care physicians and practice staff on Case Studies of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Patients.

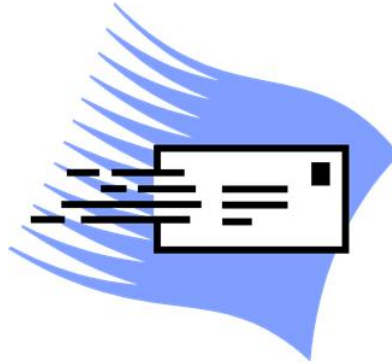
WHAT ARE THE FUTURE PLANS/ACTIVITIES?

- ⇒ Audiologist training to be held in Philadelphia on August 2011.
- ⇒ Onsite technical assistance will be continued with birth hospitals who receive grants to purchase updated hearing screening equipment.
- ⇒ Birth hospital workgroups via teleconference will be continued to share information and best practices on newborn hearing screening.
- ⇒ Enhance the out-of-hospital birth newborn hearing screening program by distributing new screening equipment, onsite visits by EHDI program staff, forming a midwife work group and providing “refresher” training by an audiologists.
- ⇒ Evaluate the effectiveness of the EHDI Care Coordination Plan.

WORDS OF INSPIRATION. . .



I have not failed. I have just found 10,000 ways that won't work.
—Thomas Edison



Distribution Information:

The AAP EHDI Program implementation staff send this e-mail update to the Academy's EHDI Chapter Champions, other interested AAP members, staff and state EHDI coordinators. For additional information on hearing screening and to access previous editions of the EHDI E-mail Express, click on the following link http://www.medicalhomeinfo.org/how/clinical_care/hearing_screening/. Previous e-mail updates are available upon request from Faiza Khan, fkhan@aap.org or (847) 434-4924. If you would like to unsubscribe to the update, please notify staff by responding to this e-mail.