

WHA letterhead

From: Diana Peters, RN, Director of Nursing/Delivery Services
To: Nurse Executives at Wisconsin Hospitals
Date: 11/21/99 **DRAFT**
Re: **Survey about Newborn Hearing Screening Activity**

Please complete the attached survey about newborn hearing screening activity at your hospital. You may ask the director of your newborn hearing screening program to complete the survey.

This information is very important to Wisconsin hospitals. In October, Governor Thompson approved legislation that requires Wisconsin hospitals to perform hearing tests on at least 88% of newborns in the state by August 5th, 2003. If hospitals collectively do not achieve this level of testing, then all hospitals will be required to perform universal newborn hearing screening (UNHS).

The Governor vetoed the proposed funding that would have increased the fee for a duplicate birth certificate from \$12 to \$14 to provide \$333,000 annually in state grants to hospitals to start UNHS programs. However, he is interested in identifying a more appropriate source of funding.

Useful information about UNHS is available from the National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management at 435-797-3589 or <http://www.infanthearing.org>.

The results will be analyzed for WHA by John Meurer, MD, MM, of the Medical College of Wisconsin, Ann Conway, RN, MSN, MPA of the Wisconsin Association for Perinatal Care, and Sharon Fleischfresser, MD, MPH, of the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services Children with Special Health Care Needs Program. **Your hospital will not be named in any reports or publications without your written permission.**

Please return the survey to Dawn Bergen at WHA, fax 608-274-8554, BY JANUARY 28TH. If you need more information, contact Dawn at 608-274-1820 or dbergen@wha.org

Thanks!

WHA Survey About Newborn Hearing Screening
December 1999

[This survey will be reformatted in an optically scannable 3-page form.]

1. Approximately how many newborns were born at your hospital:
In 1998? _____
In 1999? _____

2. Which newborns does your hospital objectively test for hearing deficits?

- All newborns
- High-risk* newborns in any hospital unit
- All newborns in intensive care unit only
- High-risk* newborns in intensive care unit only
- No newborns tested (SKIP TO QUESTION 10)

(*High-risk factors may be low birth weight, mechanical ventilation, TORCH infections, ear malformations, family history of congenital hearing deficit, etc.)

3. Estimate the number and percent of all newborns who had an objective hearing test at your hospital:

Year	Number of newborns hearing tested	Percent of all newborns hearing tested
1998		
1999		

4. What initial objective hearing test is used for most newborns:

- Automated auditory brainstem response (AABR)
- Conventional auditory brainstem response (ABR)
- Transient evoked otoacoustic emissions (TEOAE)
- No test used (SKIP TO QUESTION 10)

5. If the initial hearing test is abnormal, what followup test, if any, is done **BEFORE DISCHARGE**?

- Automated auditory brainstem response (AABR)
- Conventional auditory brainstem response (ABR)
- Transient evoked otoacoustic emissions (TEOAE)
- No test used

6. Estimate the number newborns who had an **ABNORMAL** hearing test **BEFORE DISCHARGE** from your hospital:

In 1998: _____
In 1999: _____

7. Who usually does the **INITIAL** newborn hearing test (mark **ALL** that apply)?

- Nursing assistant
- Registered nurse
- Certified audiometric technician
- Licensed audiologist
- Speech therapist
- Other (specify _____)

8. Where does your hospital refer infants with abnormal hearing tests?

- Own hospital
- Hospital in your health system or network
- Another hospital or facility

9. Estimate the number of infants with abnormal hearing tests who received special services **AFTER DISCHARGE** (Leave blank if unknown):

Special services	Number of infants receiving services	
	Year 1998	Year 1999
Year		
Speech therapy		
Hearing aids		
Cochlear implants or vibrotactile devices		

10. If you do not perform hearing tests on all newborns, do you plan to implement a **universal newborn hearing screening (UNHS)** program in:

- Year 2000
- Year 2001
- Do not plan to implement a program within the next 2 years

11. Did your hospital staff attend a regional forum about UNHS sponsored by WHA and Wisconsin Association for Perinatal Care between July and October 1999?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

12. What education and technical assistance would help your hospital to implement or improve a UNHS program (Check **ALL** that apply)?

- Promoting UNHS as the standard of medical care
- Financing the cost of UNHS
- Selecting equipment and training staff
- Communicating with parents and medical providers
- Tracking and referring newborns with abnormal screens

13. Who is the contact person at your hospital for newborn hearing tests?

Name _____

Title _____

Hospital _____

Address _____

City _____

Zip code _____

Phone number ____ - ____ - _____

Fax ____ - ____ - _____

Email _____

Thanks for your help!

Please return this survey to Dawn Bergen at WHA, fax 608-274-8554, BY JANUARY 28TH.