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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of newborns hearing tested</th>
<th>Percent of all newborns hearing tested</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special services</th>
<th>Number of infants receiving services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech therapy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing aids</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cochlear implants or vibrotactile</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>devices</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.