



Texas Early Hearing Detection and Intervention

# Newborn Hearing Screening

## Communicating “did not pass” results to families



### **DO** give a **positive** message:

“Your baby didn’t pass the hearing screening.”  
“Your baby did not pass on (the left/right or either ear), which means more information is needed about your baby’s hearing.”

“The next step is an outpatient follow-up rescreen for your baby when they are at least 10 days old.”



### **DO** give the “**TEHDI: After the Hearing Screen**” brochure:

“Here’s a brochure that explains about audiological diagnostic evaluations should your baby not pass the outpatient follow-up rescreen.”

Discuss why an outpatient follow-up rescreen is needed. According to your hospital’s newborn hearing screening procedures, possibly offer to assist with getting an appointment with another facility if your hospital does not perform outpatient follow-up rescreens.



### **DO NOT** say:

- Your baby failed or referred
- It’s just because of fluid or vernix  
(Cannot assume this)
- Your baby is deaf or hard of hearing  
(Cannot assume this)
- Probably nothing is wrong  
(Cannot assume this)
- A lot of babies don’t pass  
(minimizes need to attend rescreen)
- Your baby doesn’t need follow-up testing
- Your baby was fussy  
(Then it was an invalid screening)
- The equipment was not working right  
(Then it was an invalid screening)



### **DO NOT** perform multiple screens in an attempt to get a pass (The limit is two valid screens)