

## Newborn Hearing Screening Program Needs Assessment

**Instructions:** The following questions are about how your hospital or birthing center identifies newborns with hearing loss. Most people need about 20 minutes to complete the questionnaire. Please be as complete as possible. When you are asked for a number or percentage, you should not spend a lot of time finding exact data if you can estimate and be within 10%. For estimates of current status, use what you know about the last 2-3 months to make your best estimate. If you are responsible for a newborn hearing screening program in more than one hospital, please complete a separate questionnaire for each hospital. If you need help completing the questionnaire, please call 888-827-0800 and ask for help about the Newborn Hearing Screening Survey. When you finish, please return the questionnaire in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. Thank you for your help!

1. About how many babies are born or admitted to this hospital each year? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Does this hospital have a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)?

**G** Yes

**G** No (please go to question #3)

a. About what percentage of the total births or admissions spend time in the NICU? \_\_\_\_\_%

b. Check the most intensive level your NICU is equipped to handle:   **G** Level II           **G** Level III

3. Does this hospital use any systematic procedures to decide whether newborns have a hearing loss?

**G** Yes

**G** No (please go to question #23)

Check the one which best describes the procedures for early identification of hearing loss used at this hospital?

**G** a) All or almost all newborns (more than 90%) are screened for hearing loss using a physiologic measure, such as auditory brainstem response (ABR) or otoacoustic emissions (OAE). [Please go to question #4.]

**G** b) Most newborns (50% to 90%) are screened for hearing loss using a physiologic measure such as ABR or OAE. [Please skip to question #6.]

**G** c) Some newborns (less than 50%) are screened for hearing loss using a physiologic measure such as ABR or OAE. [Please skip to question #6.]

**G** d) High risk indicators (e.g., very low birth weight, family history of hearing loss, hyperbilirubinemia, etc.) are identified for all newborns, and these babies receive or are referred for further physiologic screening or diagnostic testing. [Please skip to question #6.]

**G** e) Other (please describe briefly) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [Please skip to question #6.]

4. Approximately what month and year did this hospital begin doing universal newborn hearing screening (i.e., screening 90% or more of all births or admissions)?

(Month, Year) \_\_\_\_\_

5. a) Estimate the percentage of babies born in or admitted to this hospital who are screened for hearing prior to discharge: \_\_\_\_\_%
- b) Of the babies screened, what percentage typically pass the hearing screening test before being discharged? (remember, estimates are acceptable) \_\_\_\_\_%
6. For the babies who do not pass the screen before they are discharged from the hospital, do you try to screen them again after discharge in a 2nd-stage screen **before** they are referred for a diagnostic evaluation?

G Yes

G No (please go to question #8)

- |  |
|--|
| <p>a) Of the babies who are supposed to come back for this 2nd-stage screen, please estimate what percentage of babies return ..... _____%</p> <p>b) Of the babies who return, estimate what percentage pass the 2nd-stage screen ..... _____%</p> |
|--|

7. How are parents informed about a “pass” result from hearing screening done in the hospital? (check all that apply)

- G Screening personnel inform parents.
- G Physician informs parents.
- G Audiologist informs parents.
- G Parents are informed by mail.
- G Parents are informed by phone call.
- G Parents are informed verbally before hospital discharge.
- G Parents are informed through written material before hospital discharge.
- G Parents are not informed of a test “pass” result.
- G Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

8. How are parents informed about babies who **do not pass** prior to discharge? (check all that apply)

- G Screening personnel inform parents.
- G Physician informs parents.
- G Audiologist informs parents.
- G Parents are informed by mail.
- G Parents are informed by phone call.
- G Parents are informed verbally before hospital discharge.
- G Parents are informed through written material before hospital discharge.
- G Parents are not informed about a referral.
- G Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

9. Who refers the family for a diagnostic evaluation when the baby does not pass the final screening test? (check all that apply)

- Nursery staff
- Physician
- Audiologist
- Coordinator of Newborn Hearing Screening Program
- Other, please describe \_\_\_\_\_

10. Who is responsible for assuring that an infant who does not pass the screening test receives a diagnostic evaluation? (check all that apply)

- Nursery staff
- Physician
- Audiologist
- Coordinator of hospital's Newborn Hearing Screening Program
- After babies leave the hospital, we don't do any follow-up
- Other, please describe \_\_\_\_\_

11. For babies who do not pass the hearing screening test, what are families told about their options for obtaining diagnostic audiological services? (check all that apply)

- No specific information is given regarding diagnostic audiological services.
- Family is informed about audiologic services available within our hospital.
- Family is given a referral list consisting of audiologists in the area.
- Family is referred to a specific audiologist or clinic for hearing testing.
- Family is referred to their physician.
- Family is referred to the State Department of Health.
- Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

12. Does someone at the hospital keep track of whether babies diagnosed with a hearing loss receive appropriate intervention?

- Yes, for all or most babies       Yes, for some babies       No

13. Does your hospital charge third-party payers (i.e., health insurance companies) for the newborn hearing screening?

<b>G Yes</b>	<b>G No</b> <b>G Don't Know</b>
<p>a. How does your hospital charge for hearing screening?</p> <p><b>G</b> Included in the room rate</p> <p><b>G</b> Separate charge for hearing screens</p> <p><b>G</b> Included in charge for birthing</p> <p><b>G</b> Other (please specify) _____</p>	
<p>b. Estimate the average charge . . . . . \$_____ <b>G Don't Know</b></p>	
<p>c. Can you estimate the percentage of screens for which the hospital is reimbursed? <b>G</b> Yes, about _____%</p> <p><b>G</b> No</p>	
<p>c. Can you estimate the average amount the hospital is paid for those that do reimburse? <b>G</b> Yes, about \$_____</p> <p><b>G</b> No</p>	

14. In addition to any revenues received from private pay, insurance, or Medicaid, does the hospital receive outside funding to support the newborn hearing screening program?

<b>G Yes</b>	<b>G No</b>		
<p>a. From whom is this funding received? (check all that apply)</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>G</b> Service organizations (e.g., Lions, Elks, Rotary, etc.)</p> <p><b>G</b> Hospital auxiliaries</p> <p><b>G</b> Infant Toddler Program</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>G</b> Department of Health &amp; Welfare</p> <p><b>G</b> Private foundations</p> <p><b>G</b> Other _____</p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p><b>G</b> Service organizations (e.g., Lions, Elks, Rotary, etc.)</p> <p><b>G</b> Hospital auxiliaries</p> <p><b>G</b> Infant Toddler Program</p>	<p><b>G</b> Department of Health &amp; Welfare</p> <p><b>G</b> Private foundations</p> <p><b>G</b> Other _____</p>
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<p>b. Estimate approximately how much outside funding was received during the last 12 months: \$_____</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>G Don't Know</b></p>			

15. Of babies screened for hearing loss at your hospital prior to discharge, estimate the percentage of babies typically screened by each of the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ % Audiologist

\_\_\_\_\_ % Certified or Licensed Audiometric Technician

\_\_\_\_\_ % Nurse

\_\_\_\_\_ % Health Care Assistant, LPN, or Nurse's Aide

\_\_\_\_\_ % Technician other than Certified Audiometric Technician

\_\_\_\_\_ % Clerical Staff

\_\_\_\_\_ % Volunteer

\_\_\_\_\_ % Student

\_\_\_\_\_ % Other (please describe \_\_\_\_\_)

(The sum of all categories should be 100%)

16. Which of the following best describes how parents give permission for newborn hearing screening to be done? (check the one answer that is best for most parents)

Parent's permission is assumed unless they specifically object and sign a waiver.  
If Yes, must the parent sign a waiver?       Yes       No

Verbal permission must be given by parent before screening is done.

Written permission must be obtained from a parent before screening is done.

17. Is an audiologist directly involved with your hospital's newborn hearing screening program?

Yes

No

a. Is the audiologist: (check the best answer)

a full-time employee of the hospital?

a part-time employee of the hospital?

a paid consultant?

an unpaid consultant?

other (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

b. In what role is this audiologist involved? (check all that apply)

Screens a significant percentage of the babies prior to discharge

Supervises day-to-day operation of the program

Consults as needed

Manages patient information and data for tracking and follow-up

Does significant percentage of outpatient hearing screening

Does diagnostic evaluations for infants referred from the screening program

Other (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

c. Estimate about how many hours a week the audiologist spends on activities associated with the newborn hearing screening program: \_\_\_\_\_ hours per week      \_\_\_\_\_ don't know

18. A goal of the Newborn Hearing Screening Consortium is to help hospitals operate successful newborn hearing screening and intervention programs. For each area below, mark how useful past assistance from Consortium staff has been and whether you would like additional help in this area.

	No Help Given	How useful was past assistance?					Would you like more assistance?				
		Poor		Fair		Excellent	No		Maybe		Definitely
a) Promoting newborn hearing screening as the standard of medical care	<b>G</b>	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
b) Establishing appropriate protocols and procedures for our hospital	<b>G</b>	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
c) Selecting equipment	<b>G</b>	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
d) Training staff to do screening	<b>G</b>	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
e) Achieving lower refer rates	<b>G</b>	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
f) Developing educational materials	<b>G</b>	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
g) Communicating with parents and physicians	<b>G</b>	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
h) Data management (tracking/referring newborns with abnormal screens)	<b>G</b>	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
i) Connecting referred babies to diagnostic evaluations	<b>G</b>	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
j) Financing the cost of screening	<b>G</b>	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
k) Other (specify) _____	<b>G</b>	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5



20. If we have questions or want clarification about any of your answers, is it okay for us to call you on the telephone?

<b>G</b> Yes	<b>G</b> No
The best person to contact is:	
Name: _____	
Hospital or facility name: _____	
Address: _____	
_____	
Phone: _____	
Fax: _____	
E-mail: _____	
The best time to call is: _____	

- G** Check here if you would like us to send a summary of all results to the person listed in item #20.

**Thank you for your help! Please return the questionnaire as soon as possible in the enclosed postage-page envelope.**