

GLOSSARY

TERM	ACRONYM	DEFINITION
AGGI		A database used to collect information about newborn hearing screening programs in birth facilities.
Americans with Disabilities Act	ADA	A civil rights law which prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in several areas, including employment, transportation, public accommodations, communications and access to state and local government programs and services.
Atresia		A congenital lack or absence of a fully developed ear canal, eardrum, middle ear space, and ear bones. Ear canal can appear closed off/ no opening. It can be unilateral (one ear) or bilateral (both ears).
Audiology Doctorate	AuD	The professional degree for an audiologist. The AuD program is designed to produce audiologists who are skilled in providing diagnostic, rehabilitative, and other services associated with hearing, balance, tinnitus management, and related audiological fields.
Auditory Neuropathy	AN	A rare type of hearing loss characterized by normal or near normal cochlear hair cell function and absent or abnormal auditory nerve function. It is caused by disruption of the nerve impulses travelling from the inner ear to the brain.
Automated Auditory Brainstem Response	A-ABR	A method to screen newborn hearing that is automated and results in a Pass or Refer. A- ABR measures the response of the hearing nerve and brainstem to sound. Responses are recorded from electrodes or sensors placed on the baby’s head.
Congenital Cytomegalovirus	cCMV	A common viral infection, and the leading non-genetic cause of hearing loss, that infants are born with in the United States. Every pregnant woman is at risk of acquiring CMV and it is preventable.
Contacted but Not Responsive	CNR	An outcome for newborn hearing screening, diagnosis and/or early intervention for a child. Defined as two-way conversation or written communication with the child’s legal parent or guardian with acknowledged awareness of the 1:3:6 recommendation and lack of follow through with recommendations.
Craniofacial Anomaly	CFA	Abnormalities or malformations of the of the face, head and/or neck.
Critical Congenital Heart Disease	CCHD	A group of serious heart defects that are present from birth. These abnormalities result from problems with the formation of one or more parts of the heart during the early stages of embryonic development.

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Data Submission		Data variables related to hearing screening, risk factors, diagnosis and intervention provided to the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program in the state or territory where the baby was born on a routine basis in an electronic or written format.
Deaf or Hard of Hard of Hearing	D/HH	Individuals with hearing differences/atypical hearing of various degree, type, and configuration.
Delayed Onset Hearing Loss		Hearing loss that develops sometime after birth but before entering kindergarten.
Demographic Information		Data variables used to identify a specific person. Including: sex, date of birth, maternal age, ethnicity, education, and race.
Diagnostic Hearing/Audiological Evaluation		A series of tests performed by an audiologist to determine if a hearing loss exists, and, if so, the type (part of the auditory system affected), degree (how much hearing loss exists) and configuration (frequencies or pitches that are affected) of the loss.
Directors of Speech and Hearing Programs in State Health and Welfare Agencies	DSHPSHWA	A corporation whose purpose is to develop better understanding for and encourage development of more efficient programming for speech, language, and hearing disorders within the public health and welfare setting. They additionally encourage research in these areas and provide means for professional growth relative to programming.
Disposable Supplies		Single use supplies used for conducting hearing screenings. Examples: Probe tips, electrodes, skin prep, electrode gel, etc.
Distortion Product Otoacoustic Emissions	DPOAE	Responses generated by the cochlea, and measured in the ear canal, when stimulated simultaneously by two pure tone frequencies.
Ear Nose and Throat Physician/Otolaryngology	ENT/OTO	A physician/surgeon who diagnose, treat, and manage disorders of the ears, nose and throat as well as a wide range of diseases of the head and neck, including ear, hearing, and vestibular disorders.
Early Hearing Detection and Intervention	EHDI	Programs/systems in every state and territory that provide access, tracking, surveillance and care coordination for newborn hearing screening, diagnosis, and intervention.
Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Information System	EHDI-IS	Confidential, computerized, population-based systems that collect and consolidate newborn hearing screening, follow-up care, and service data from clinical and early intervention service providers. A tool that supports EHDI programs in their work to ensure that all D/HH infants and young children are identified early and receive intervention services.

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Early Intervention	EI	A federal program (also known as Part C) that provides for services and supports to children birth through 2 years old at risk for developmental delays or disabilities. These services can include speech–language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, assistive technology, and more. The program is operated at the state level.
Electrodes		Sensors that are placed on the baby’s head and neck that measure and record responses from the hearing nerve and brainstem.
Electronic Medical Record	EMR	The digital equivalent of paper records or charts.
Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation	ECMO	Prolonged respiratory and cardiac support to persons whose heart and lungs are unable to provide an adequate amount of gas exchange or perfusion to sustain life.
Family-Based Organization	FBO	Entities/agencies/programs lead by families that oversee support/resources for families with infants and children who are D/HH.
Guide By Your Side	GBYS	A family-based organization in which specially trained parents of children who are D/HH work as “Guides” directly with families who have just learned of their child’s hearing condition, or who have older children and are in need of support.
Hands-on Training		A technique to teach people how to perform specific tasks. It allows learners to apply their knowledge to real-world situations. Learning by doing provides the learner with reinforcement and feedback.
Hearing Screening Data		Detailed information about the hearing screens performed on babies which is submitted to the EHDI Program in the state or territory where the baby was born. Data includes individual ear results, date/time of screening, technology used, risk factors, screener name, etc.
Hearing Screening Reports		A method of submitting newborn hearing screening data from birth facilities to their EHDI Program on a routine basis (daily, weekly). Hearing Screening Reports may also be created by the EHDI Program and provided to the individual hospitals on a routine (quarterly) basis.
High Quality Screen		A screening that takes place with the following criteria: a sleeping or quietly resting infant, a quiet screening environment, a secure probe fit (if a probe is used), and assurance that the ear canal is patent (open) prior to initiating the screen.

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Hyperbilirubinemia		Excessive bilirubin in an infant resulting in yellowing of the skin and eyes (jaundice).
Initial Screen		The first hearing screening conducted typically within 24 hours after birth.
Joint Committee on Infant Hearing	JCIH	A group of representatives from various national organizations whose mission is to address issues and create guidelines that are important to the early identification, intervention, and follow-up care of infants and young children with hearing loss.
Level 2 Neonatal Intensive Care Unit	Level 2 NICU	A nursery that provides care for babies born at 32 weeks gestational age or greater or babies who are full-term but require close monitoring or intravenous antibiotics after birth.
Level 3 Neonatal Intensive Care Unit	Level 3 NICU	A nursery that provides care for babies born at 28 weeks gestation or very sick newborn babies. These unit have a wide variety of staff on-site, including neonatologists, neonatal nurses, and respiratory therapists who are available 24 hours a day.
Long-term Stay Babies		Babies in need of special care who are admitted to NICU or specialty care nursery/unit greater than five days.
Lost to Locate/ Lost to Follow up	LTL/LTF	An outcome for newborn hearing screening, diagnosis and/or early intervention for a child going through the EHDI process. Defined as a family who cannot be located or is unresponsive to contact by the EHDI Program.
Medically Fragile		Babies who require medications, treatments and/or specialized care or equipment due to illness or congenital disorders.
Microtia		A congenital malformation of the outer ear in which the pinna (outer ear portion) is underdeveloped or absent. It can be unilateral (one ear) or bilateral (both ears).
Neonatal Intensive Care Unit	NICU	A nursery for babies who are born seriously ill or premature and need closer observation and care by a team of experts around the clock.
Newborn Hearing Screening Technology		Equipment/methods to conduct objective automated hearing screenings on newborns. Two types of technology used are Automated Auditory Brainstem Response (A-ABR) and Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE).
Otoacoustic Emissions	OAE	Soft sounds produced by a normal ear that are measured in the ear canal when the cochlea (inner ear) is stimulated with a low intensity click or pure tone stimulus. OAE is a method used to screen a newborn's hearing that is automated and results in a Pass or Refer.
Ototoxic Medications		A class of medications used to treat infections in newborns that can damage the ear, resulting in hearing loss, ringing in the ear, or balance disorders.

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Outpatient Hearing Screening		A hearing screening commonly provided after discharge from the hospital when the baby does not pass the inpatient screening. It is often performed by the birth hospital/facility, a pediatric audiology, medical home, or outpatient clinic/agency.
Outsourcing		An outside company/vendor that is contracted to provide a specific service, such as newborn hearing screening on behalf of the hospital.
Pediatric Audiologist		An audiologist that has acquired specialized knowledge and skills in the field of pediatric audiology.
Primary Care Provider	PCP	A provider responsible for coordinating baby's ongoing care and follow-up after discharged. Medical Home Provider or Health Care Provider are other common terms.
Repeat Screen		A second hearing screening conducted prior to discharge due to the baby not passing the initial screen in one or both ears.
Risk Factor/Indicator		Certain medical issues or treatments, physical malformations or pre-existing conditions present at birth that put an infant at increased risk of hearing loss at birth or delayed-onset hearing loss, regardless of the newborn hearing screen results.
Screening Refusals		When the parent/caregiver declines having their baby's, hearing screened. Refusals should be documented and reported.
Special Care Baby Unit	SCBU	A nursery that cares for babies who need more care than healthy newborns but are relatively stable and do not need to be in a NICU. These units are also called Level 1 or Low Dependency Units.
Transient Evoked Otoacoustic Emissions	TEOAE	Responses generated by the cochlea's outer hair cells in response to a transient click.
Unable to Contact		An outcome for newborn hearing screening, diagnosis and/or early intervention for a child. Defined as when a family is not able to be contacted by a provider regarding follow-up or next steps.
Unable to Screen Medical Reasons		An outcome for newborn hearing screening, diagnosis and/or early intervention for a child. Defined as a baby whose hearing cannot be screened due to medical reasons or is not recommended by an approved medical provider.
Well Baby		Healthy babies who do not require specialized care.