

Guidelines for Risk Monitoring for Delayed Onset Hearing Loss

Class A: Risk indicators

- *In-utero infections (congenital CMV)
- *Culture Positive postnatal infection (Bacterial and viral meningitis)
- *Syndromes associated with progressive or delayed onset hearing loss (Neurofibromatosis,

Osteopetrosis, Usher Syndrome, Townes-Brock)

- *Syndromes associated with hearing loss (Down syndrome and Sticklers)
- *Cleft Lip/Palate
- *ECMO assisted ventilation
- *Head Trauma involving basal skull/temporal fracture that requires hospitalization
- *Chemotherapy treatments
- *Neurodegenerative disorders or sensory motor neuropathies

If baby passes the newborn hearing screening & has one or more CLASS A risk indicator =
Recommendation for diagnostic ABR evaluation with pediatric audiologists by 3 months of age.

Class B: Risk indicators

- *Family history of childhood hearing loss
- *In-Utero Infection (Herpes, Rubella, Syphilis, Toxoplasmosis)
- *NICU stay of greater than 5 days
- *Any amount of ototoxic exposure (aminoglycosides)
- *Any amount of mechanical ventilation
- *Craniofacial anomalies involving pinna, ear canal, ear pits and temporal bone anomalies

If baby passes the newborn hearing screening & has one or more CLASS B risk indicators =

Recommendation for diagnostic pediatric hearing evaluation by 1 year of age.

NOTE: If baby REFERS on the newborn hearing screening after two attempts – Recommendation for Diagnostic ABR evaluation to be completed by 3 months of age (JCIH 2007)

- * Any parental/caregiver hearing concerns warrants a referral to a pediatric audiologist.
- ** Infants readmitted to the hospital within the first 30 days of life should be re-screened if any risk indicators are present.

References:

Fligor BJ, Neault MW, Mullen CH, Feldman HA, Jones DT. Factors associated with sensorineural hearing loss among survivors of extracorporeal membrane oxygenation therapy. Pediatrics 2005; 115(6):1519-1528.

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Van Riper, Lori A.; Kileny, Paul R. ABR Hearing Screening for High-Risk Infants. American Journal of Otology. 20(4):516-521, July 1999.