

What if my baby has a hearing loss?

The audiologist will provide you with information about the next steps. Each baby's hearing loss is unique, so the follow-up that is needed will vary. With the help of professionals, you will decide which treatment and communication options are best for your baby.

If you have questions or need help to schedule an appointment, contact the NH EHDI Program or NH EHDI Follow-up Coordinator.



New Hampshire Department of
Health & Human Services
Division of Public Health Services
Maternal and Child Health Section

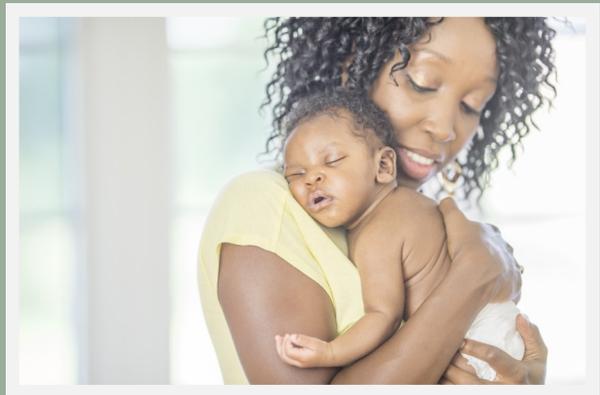
New Hampshire Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program

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Diagnostic ABR Hearing Testing For Your Baby



New Hampshire Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program

Diagnostic Hearing Testing is Important!

Why does my baby need testing?

Diagnostic hearing testing is needed because your baby did not pass the newborn hearing screening. Some babies who do not pass the hearing screening will have normal hearing and others will have a temporary or permanent hearing loss. Diagnostic hearing testing will determine how your baby hears.

Where is testing done?

There are designated centers throughout the state that provide diagnostic hearing testing for babies. NH EHDI Program has identified these centers because they have specialized audiologists and the equipment needed to test babies.

Your birth facility or the NH EHDI Program can provide a current list of testing centers.



What can I expect?

Your baby will have a series of tests that are painless. The testing equipment is sensitive to movement and noise, so your baby will need to be asleep to get good results. The equipment automatically records hearing levels and does not require your baby to respond. The amount of time needed to complete the tests will vary from 1½-3 hours. You will be with your baby throughout testing.

The audiologist will talk with you about the results on the day of testing. If your baby did not sleep well or testing could not be completed, an additional appointment may be needed.

**Testing should be completed
before your baby is
3 months old.**

How do I prepare my baby?

Your baby will need to sleep during most of the testing. It will help if your baby is hungry and tired before the appointment. To help prepare your baby, consider the following:

- Bring bottles, a blanket, and diapers to keep your baby comfortable.
- Keep your baby awake before the appointment.
- Wait to feed your baby until you are in the testing room.
- Follow any other instructions given by the audiologist.