

Best Practices For Early Intervention Referrals

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JCIH 1-3-6 Guidelines

1 Before one month of age: *Hearing Screening*

3 Before three months of age: *Hearing evaluation*

6 Before six months of age: *Early Intervention*



Boys Town National Research Hospital

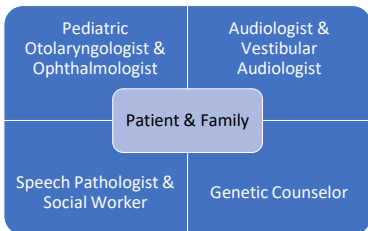
- 689 newborn ABRs in 2023
 - Includes repeat or confirmatory testing
- Approximately 45 diagnosed with a hearing difference



What are the next steps?



BTNRH Pediatric Hearing Clinic



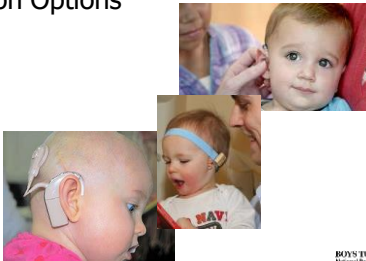
CMV Testing

- Less than 3 weeks old, order CMV testing.
- Older than 4 weeks, consider obtaining the blood spot for CMV testing.
 - Nebraska - 90 days
 - Iowa - 5 years



Amplification Options

- Hearing aids
- Cochlear Implants



Parent Resource Guide

- Nebraska - [Parent Resource Guide \(ne.gov\)](http://ne.gov)
 - Nebraska Hands and Voices - [Nebraska Hands & Voices \(handsandvoicesne.org\)](http://handsandvoicesne.org)
 - Guide by Your Side
- Iowa - [download \(iowa.gov\)](http://iowa.gov)
 - Iowa Hands and Voices - [Hands & Voices | Iowa Hands & Voices | Iowa \(iowahandsandvoices.org\)](http://handsandvoicesiowa.org)



Early Intervention

- Birth through 3 years of age.
- Children with hearing differences have a higher likelihood of delay in communication, cognition, and social emotional development.



Early Intervention

- Referral should be made within 7 days or as soon as possible.
- Make referral as soon as a permanent hearing difference is suspected
- Don't need to wait until confirmatory testing





HANDS & VOICES

8

Reasons to say YES to Early Intervention for your child who is Deaf/Hard of Hearing(D/HH)

...What are you waiting for?



Case Example #1

- 42 weeks GA male
- No birth complications
- Born to deaf parents who use ASL
- ABR – hearing difference, sensorineural in nature
- Discussed options
- Parents declined amplification but were interested in early intervention. Referral made at initial visit.



Case Example #2

- 43 weeks GA male
- No birth complications
- ABR – no hearing difference in the right ear; ANSD in the left ear
- Parents declined EI at initial visit
- Confirmatory ABR – similar test results, discussed EI again and made referral



Case Example #3

- 45 weeks GA female
- 29 days NICU
- ABR - no hearing difference left ear; conductive hearing difference in the right ear with possible ME fluid
- Did not initially refer to EI
- Follow up testing - persistent conductive hearing difference, no middle ear fluid. Referral made to EI



Items to consider

- Develop a rapport with the families
- Cultural and personal experiences



Early Intervention

- Nebraska
 - [Make a Referral | Nebraska Early Development Network](#)
- Iowa
 - [Early ACCESS Referral - ACHIEVE \(iowa.gov\)](#)





Thank you!

[My Baby's Hearing \(babyhearing.org\)](http://MyBaby'sHearing(babyhearing.org))

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