

Maine CDC Newborn Hearing Program

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One Simple Test Can Make a Difference for Your Child



Maine Newborn Hearing Screening

Why should my baby's hearing be tested?

- Hearing screening is available for all infants born in Maine.
- Testing is the only way to know if a baby has hearing loss.
- If your baby has a hearing loss, it is important to find out early, because a hearing loss can delay your baby's learning and language development.

What should I know about the Hearing Screening?

- This is a simple process – soft sounds are presented while your baby sleeps naturally.
- It is painless and takes only minutes.
- You can be present while your baby is screened.
- This screening will help you know if your baby needs a full hearing test.
- If your baby does not pass the first hearing screening, make sure that they are seen by an audiologist for a full hearing test as soon as possible. Your healthcare provider can help with the referral.

What do the results mean?

Pass:

- Your baby passed the hearing screening.
- Monitor speech and language milestones.

Pass with Risk Factor:

- Your baby passed but has risk factors.
- Talk to your healthcare provider as more testing may be needed to monitor speech and language milestones.

Refer:

- Your baby did not pass and needs more testing by an audiologist (hearing professional).
- This does not necessarily mean that there is a hearing loss, but follow-up testing will help you to learn how your baby hears.

