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Hearing Loss in Newborns

Hearing loss in newborn and infants

The earlier it can be detected

The better it can be managed

Why neonatal hearing screening important?

- Hearing loss can be missed by parents and caregivers in the first few months of life and so it becomes too late when detected.
- Neonatal hearing screening can detect any hearing problem in the first few days itself.
- Unilateral hearing loss can be missed by parents / caregivers in the first few months of life unless a hearing screening is done.

Hence early intervention can be carried out if detected earlier.

Why should we screen for hearing loss?

- The lack of hearing can keep a child from learning speech and language normally.
- Speech and language are among the most important skills we need to impart to our children so that they can become literate, self sufficient citizens when they mature.
- Hearing impaired children who received treatment before six months of age; language develops far earlier than for children who are not managed until after one year.

HEARING SCREENINGS ARE FAST, SIMPLE & PAINLESS

Hearing screenings are routinely performed on babies before they leave the hospital.

The procedure is painless, and it determines the current status of your baby's hearing within minutes.

It is never too late to test your child's hearing.

Treatment is available at any age.

If at any time you suspect a problem, consult your baby's doctor

All newborns should be screened

Recent researches indicate that children identified with a hearing loss who begin services in a multidisciplinary approach including medical, psychological and rehabilitative intervention may be able to develop speech, language (spoken and/or sign) and cognitive abilities at par with their hearing peers.

An audiologist, as part of an interdisciplinary team of professionals, will evaluate your child and suggest the most appropriate audiological intervention programme.

I, _____ have read the information above and I consent/ do not consent to the hearing screening being done on my new born.

Signature of the Parent

Nurse Name & Signature

Date & Time