

Newborn Hearing Screening: Sharing “refer” results with families



Do's

DO say a positive message

“Your baby didn't pass the hearing screening (indicate which ear/s) which means that more information is needed about your baby's hearing. The next step is to have a hearing rescreen”.

DO give families the “My Baby's Hearing Screening” brochure or your hospital brochure

“Here's a brochure that explains your newborn hearing screening”. Discuss how the family should follow-up with a rescreen appointment, according to your hospital's screening procedures. If possible, work with the family to schedule an appointment when the baby will be 10-20 days old.



Don'ts

DO NOT say misleading messages

- The baby failed
- The baby has a hearing loss
- Probably nothing is wrong
- A lot of babies don't pass
- The baby doesn't need follow-up testing
- The baby was fussy (Then it is an invalid screening)
- The equipment's not working (Then it is an invalid screening)
- It's just fluid or vernix (We can't assume this)

DO NOT perform multiple screens in an attempt to get a pass

A baby should not be screened more than three times as an inpatient.