

## Can any audiologist do the diagnostic testing?

No, the diagnostic testing should be performed by an audiologist who specializes in working with infants and has the training and equipment necessary to conduct complete diagnostic testing.

## What will happen during our visit?

An audiologist will test your baby's hearing and explain the results to you or tell you if your baby needs more testing. The tests are safe and painless. It is preferred that your baby be asleep for testing.



## If you do not have insurance or do not have enough insurance...

Call HUSKY: 1-877-CT-HUSKY  
(1-877-284-8759)

The HUSKY program provides healthcare insurance for uninsured children. Tell them that your baby needs to have diagnostic audiology testing.

## If you have limited income and your child has other health care needs...

Call Child Development Infoline:  
1-800-505-7000

Ask for information about the Children with Special Health Care Needs Medical Home Initiative in your area.

Call the Department of Public Health:

- If you are having trouble making an appointment for your baby's hearing test, or
- have any questions about the program.

## Early Hearing Detection & Intervention Program

410 Capitol Avenue, MS# 11 MAT  
P.O. Box 340308  
Hartford, CT 06134-0308  
Voice (860) 509-8057  
TTY (860) 509-7191  
Fax (860) 509-8132

or visit our web site:  
<http://www.ct.gov/dph/ehdi>



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# A Parent's Guide to Diagnostic Hearing Testing of Infants



## Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) Program

Connecticut  
Department of Public Health

If your baby did not pass his or her hearing screening at birth, IT IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR HIM OR HER TO HAVE ANOTHER HEARING TEST.

With early hearing detection and intervention, babies will not lose precious listening and language learning time.

## Why does my baby need a follow-up hearing test?

Newborn hearing screening is a way to identify infants who need further testing. Your baby may or may not have a hearing loss, which can only be confirmed with a diagnostic test. Different factors may have affected your baby's screening results such as:

- fluid in the ear,
- a lot of movement,
- noise in the testing room, or
- hearing loss.



Your baby is depending on you to find out why he or she did not pass the hearing screening. The way to do that is to take your baby for diagnostic testing.

## What is diagnostic testing?

It is a series of tests that are done by an audiologist (a person trained to test hearing) using specialized equipment. The testing will determine your baby's ability to hear sounds.

**"I'm pretty sure my baby hears me, I'm going to wait to have him/her tested..."**

You cannot tell by looking at or interacting with your baby whether or not he or she can hear. The only way to be sure is to take him or her to an audiologist for diagnostic testing.

**DON'T WAIT!** Testing should be done as soon as possible after birth, preferably before two months of age. Your family and doctors can make sure your baby gets services (e.g. intervention) he or she needs at an early age to help him or her develop communication and language skills that will last a lifetime.



**"BUT, my baby passed the screening in one ear!"**

Children with unilateral hearing loss (hearing loss in one ear) or mild hearing loss also benefit when their hearing loss is found early.

- Listening with only one ear makes it difficult to hear when there is background noise, or to tell where sound comes from.
- Mild losses can make it difficult to hear softer, higher frequency sounds in speech. This can cause problems for a child as they begin to learn words and grammar.

**BABIES LEARN NEW SKILLS EVERYDAY THROUGH SOUND**

Babies' brains actively try to make sense out of the sounds that reach their ears in the course of normal, everyday events. This is the beginning of a child's language development, which will later support that child in learning to read and doing well in school.

- Identifying a child's hearing loss as early as possible is important so that steps can be taken to help that child learn to communicate in a way that is best for him or her.
- Giving children with hearing loss the special support and services they need helps their development as they learn language and gets them ready to learn to read and write.
- It may seem like it's a long way off, but beginning school with an unidentified hearing loss can prevent children from learning.

**If your baby is found to have hearing loss, there are many ways to get help.**

Your baby's audiologist and primary health care provider can give you more information.

Many babies with hearing loss will be eligible for **BIRTH TO THREE**.

Call **1-800-505-7000** to request a free developmental evaluation.

If your child is eligible, a Birth to Three service coordinator will work with your family to develop a plan of services.

The following is a list of audiology centers in Connecticut that can test your baby's hearing:

**FARMINGTON**

**Connecticut Children's Medical Center**

Audiology Department  
505 Farmington Ave.  
1st Floor  
Farmington, CT 06032  
(860) 545-9642

[www.connecticutchildrens.org](http://www.connecticutchildrens.org)  
Medical facility affiliation for sedation: Connecticut Children's Medical Center - Hartford

**HARTFORD**

**Connecticut Children's Medical Center**

282 Washington Street  
Hartford, CT 06106  
(860) 545-9642

[www.connecticutchildrens.org](http://www.connecticutchildrens.org)  
Medical facility affiliation for sedation: Connecticut Children's Medical Center - Hartford

**STORRS**

**University of Connecticut**

Speech & Hearing Clinic  
850 Bolton Road  
Unit 1085  
Storrs, CT 06269-1085  
(860) 486-2629

<http://slhs.uconn.edu/>  
Note: Does not perform sedation.

**GLASTONBURY**

**Connecticut Children's Medical Center**

Glastonbury Satellite Office  
310 Western Blvd.  
Glastonbury, CT 06033  
(860) 545-9642

[www.connecticutchildrens.org](http://www.connecticutchildrens.org)  
Medical facility affiliation for sedation: Connecticut Children's Medical Center - Hartford

**NEW HAVEN**

**ENT Medical & Surgical Group**

46 Prince Street  
New Haven, CT 06519  
(203) 752-1726

[www.entmedicalsurgical.com](http://www.entmedicalsurgical.com)  
Note: Does not perform sedation.

**WATERFORD**

**Lawrence & Memorial at Waterford**

Outpatient Rehabilitation Services  
40 Boston Post Road  
Waterford, CT 06385  
(860) 271-4900

[www.lmhospital.org](http://www.lmhospital.org)  
Note: Does not perform sedation.

**HAMDEN**

**Hearing, Balance & Speech Center**

2661 Dixwell Avenue  
Hamden, CT 06518  
(203) 287-9915

[www.hearingbalance.com](http://www.hearingbalance.com)  
Note: Does not perform sedation.

**NEW HAVEN**

**Yale New Haven Hospital**

Yale Hearing & Balance Center  
800 Howard Ave  
4th Floor  
New Haven, CT 06519  
(203) 785-2467

<http://hearing.yale.edu>  
Medical facility affiliation for sedation: Yale New Haven Hospital

An appointment has been scheduled for your baby at the center circled above for:

\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_ AM / PM