1-3-6 MONTH PRACTITIONER’S GUIDE
TEXAS EARLY HEARING DETECTION AND INTERVENTION (TEHDI) PROCESS

BEFORE 1 MONTH SCREENING

PASS
HEARING SCREEN
at Birth Facility

PASS
2ND HEARING SCREEN
at Birth Facility
before discharge

PASS
FOLLOW-UP SCREEN
as an outpatient

REFER
Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)

REFER
Audiological/Hearing Diagnostic Evaluation

REPORT
HEARING LOSS CONFIRMED
REPORT
REFERRAL TO EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION (ECI)

TO AUDIOLOGIST:
DIAGNOSTIC EVALUATION
Using Texas Evaluation Protocol

BEFORE 3 MONTHS CONFIRM DIAGNOSIS

REPORT
RESULTS & REFERRALS-TEHDI

BEFORE 6 MONTHS INTERVENTION

ENROLLED IN ECI AND RECEIVING APPROPRIATE EARLY INTERVENTION, HEARING & MEDICAL SERVICES

REPORT Services - TEHDI

HEARING AID EVALUATION/FITTING WHEN APPROPRIATE

REPORT Services - TEHDI
1. Birth Screen
- Parental permission is required.
- Test is either Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) or Transient or Distortion Product Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE).
- A second screen is done before discharge if the first is not passed.
- Written results are given to the parents and the baby’s doctor.
- Results are reported to DSHS but identifying information is removed for infants who pass; parental permission is given for identified results to be reported.
- Referral to a local audiology/hearing resource is made for outpatient re-screen when an infant does not pass the second screen.

2. Outpatient Re-Screen
- ABR or OAE tests are used.
- If the infant does not pass, referrals are made to an audiologist for diagnostic hearing testing and to DARS/Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) by calling 1-800-628-5115*.
- Hearing services are available for children who are eligible through the Texas Medicaid and Children with Special Healthcare Needs (CSHCN) programs.

3. Audiologic Evaluation
- Diagnostic ABR and, to verify cochlear involvement, OAE if not previously done.
- The Texas Pediatric Protocol for Evaluation is used; see www.dshs.state.tx.us/tehdi/assumpt.shtm.
- Results are reported to the referral source and to TEHDI.
- Referral is made to ECI upon the diagnosis of hearing loss.
- Referral to an otologist for a medical examination of the ear.
- Fitting of hearing aids by an audiologist when appropriate.
- Ongoing audiological assessment and monitoring as needed.

4. Referral to ECI
- Must be as soon as possible, but no longer than 7 days after diagnosis of hearing loss.
- Service coordination is provided by ECI.
- Parents may refuse ECI services.
- An Individual Family Services Plan (IFSP) will be developed by ECI within 45 days of referral.
- ECI and the Local Education Agency (LEA) have shared service responsibility for children with hearing loss birth to three. The LEA provides a certified teacher to work with families as outlined in the IFSP. ECI services are no cost to parents.
- ECI services are available until the child’s third birthday, and then transition to the LEA is coordinated.

5. Deaf Education and other special education services are available from ages 3 – 21 when determined by the Individual Education Plan (IEP).

6. For children who pass the newborn hearing screen, the Medical Home/physician continues to monitor for developing hearing loss; see http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/120/4/898 for suggested monitoring protocols.

Additional Resources:
TEA – www.tea.state.tx.us
UT Callier Center – www.callier.utdallas.edu/txc.html

For more information about TEHDI call 800-252-8023 ext 7726* or 512-458-7726* or visit our website at www.dshs.state.tx.us/TEHDI/

05-12258 Revised 09/13

* use relay service of your choice to call, if needed