



### What Does a “Did Not Pass” or “Referral” Result Mean?

A “Did Not Pass” or “Referral” result means your baby needs another hearing screen. This result does not mean your baby has a hearing loss. Some things that may cause a baby not to pass the first time are birth fluid in the ear, an ear infection, or a baby who is crying or active during the hearing test.

### Why Is It Important to Re-Screen My Baby for Hearing?

- Hearing loss and deafness are the most prevalent of all conditions screened for at birth.
- Some babies with hearing loss may startle to loud sounds.
- A baby’s first 6 months are vital for language development and learning potential.

- The re-screening test is the only way to confirm if a baby has a potential hearing loss.
- The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends hearing screens for all newborns.

### How Will My Baby’s Hearing Be Screened?

Similar to the first hearing screen your baby had in the hospital or birthing center, the re-screening test is quick, painless, and most likely done while your baby is asleep. Soft sounds are played through earphones, and either:

- microphones measure the echoes made by the ear called Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE) or
- electrodes placed on the baby’s head measure the brain’s response using Automated Auditory Brainstem Response (AABR).

You will receive the results of the screening before you leave the hospital or doctor’s office.

### What Can You Do to Prepare for Your Baby’s Hearing Re-Screening?

It is helpful if your baby is sleeping during the screening test. Here are some suggestions to help prepare your baby for the hearing re-screening:

1. Try to keep your baby from napping before the appointment.
2. It may be helpful to feed your baby right before testing to help him or her fall asleep.
3. Bring a swaddling blanket, extra diapers, and a change of clothes.

## Hearing and Speech Ages and Stages

Older babies and children can develop hearing loss. It is important to look for the following speech and language milestones.

### Birth to 3 Months

- Quiets or calms to familiar voices or sounds.
- Reacts to loud sounds: baby startles, blinks, stops sucking, cries, or wakes up.
- Makes soft sounds when awake: baby gurgles.

### 3 to 6 Months

- Turns eyes or head towards sounds: voices, noise-making toys, barking dogs.
- Begins to make speech sounds like “ga,” “ooh,” “ba,” and p, b, m sounds.

### 6 to 9 Months

- Responds to his or her own name and looks when called.
- Understands simple words like “no,” “bye-bye,” “juice.”
- Babbles sounds like “da-da-da,” “ma-ma-ma,” “ba-ba-ba.”

### 9 to 12 Months

- Responds to both soft and loud sounds.
- Repeats single words and imitates animal sounds.
- Points to favorite toys or foods when asked.

### 12 to 18 Months

- Uses 10 or more words.
- Follows simple spoken directions, like “get the ball.”
- Points to people, body parts, or toys when asked.

### 18 to 24 Months

- Uses 20 or more words.
- Combines 2 or more words, like “more juice,” “what’s that?”
- Uses many different consonant sounds at the beginning of words like b, g, m.

### 2 to 3 Years

- Uses 2- to 3-word sentences.
- At 2 years, people can understand what he or she says 25 to 50 percent of the time.
- At 3 years, people can understand what he or she says 50 to 75 percent of the time.
- Follows 2-step instructions like, “Get the ball and put it on the table.”

**If you have any concerns about your baby’s hearing, contact your baby’s doctor. Remember: Hearing can be tested at any age.**

### How Do I Schedule the Hearing Re-Screen Appointment?

It is best to re-screen your baby when he or she is between 1 week and 1 month of age. The birth facility may be able to perform the re-screen. If this service is not available at the facility, then you can find a list of hearing screen providers by asking the facility, your doctor, or the TEHDI program.

### Who Pays for the Hearing Re-Screening?

Private and public insurance cover the hearing screening and any necessary diagnostic follow-up care. If you are interested in learning more about public assistance, contact Medicaid for eligibility requirements and enrollment instructions at 1-800-252-8263 or TexCare (Children's Medicaid/CHIP) at 1-800-647-6558.

If your baby is covered under your private health insurance plan, then the newborn hearing screening test and any necessary diagnostic follow-up care related to the screening test from birth to 24 months of age are covered. For more information, contact your health insurance provider.

### What Happens After the Re-Screening?

It is likely that your baby will pass the re-screen. A few babies will not pass the re-screen and need a more complete hearing evaluation. If your baby needs a diagnostic hearing evaluation, the person doing the re-screen may schedule the evaluation for you or refer you to another health provider such as a pediatric audiologist.

You and your baby's doctor will be given the results of the hearing re-screen.



### Where Can I Go for More information?

The Texas Department of State Health Services has a statewide newborn hearing screening program named Texas Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (TEHDI). The goals of TEHDI are:

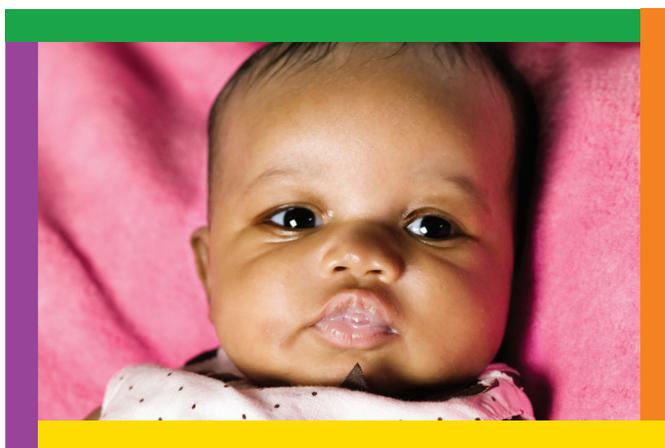
- to screen babies for hearing by 1 month of age,
- to identify babies with hearing loss by 3 months of age, and
- to connect those babies to appropriate services by 6 months of age.

The TEHDI program works directly with families, doctors, and facilities. The TEHDI program collects information about your baby's hearing screen to assist you and your baby in getting the services you may need.

TEHDI can assist you during any step in the process. Please call us toll free at **1-800-252-8023, ext. 7726**.

Email: [audiology@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:audiology@dshs.state.tx.us)

Website: [www.dshs.state.tx.us/tehdi](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/tehdi)



Source: California Department of Health Care Services. "Hearing Screener Refer." (Brochure) #1-322\_0312



## Your Baby's Hearing Re-Screening Appointment

(Please call if you need to reschedule your appointment)

Baby's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Appointment Date & Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Appointment Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_