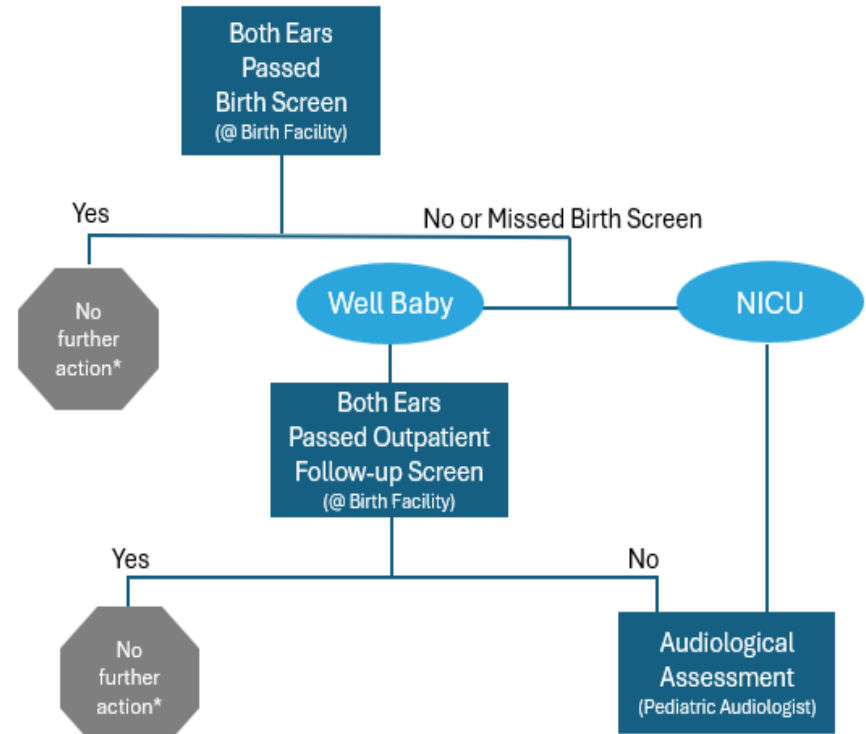


Newborn Hearing Screening

Primary Care Physician (PCP) Quick Guide

The Texas Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (TEHDI) Program follows [Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 47¹](#) and [Joint Committee on Infant Hearing 2019 Position Statement²](#) guidance and best practice for babies who may be deaf or hard of hearing. Hearing may change over time, so a PCP should perform regular monitoring of age-appropriate milestones.

- ❖ **Screening Results:** Check the birth facility's discharge summary to see the baby's inpatient hearing screening results. If the screen result is not on the summary, request records to confirm a screen was done. Do not assume the baby passed the screen or the screen was completed.
- ❖ **At-Risk Babies:** Babies with stays in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) over 5 days and who do not pass their inpatient hearing screen should be referred directly to a pediatric audiologist for diagnostic testing.
- ❖ **Well Baby Follow-up Screening:** If a non-NICU baby does not pass the first inpatient hearing screen in either ear, they need another hearing screen after they leave the birth facility. This follow-up screen should be done when the baby is **10 to 14 days old**.



*Hearing may change over time, so PCPs should perform regular monitoring of milestones

Make sure the PCP receives the results of this screen. If the baby did not have the follow-up screen, help arrange it as soon as possible.

- ❖ **Referral:** If the baby did not pass the outpatient follow-up hearing screen in either ear, **quickly** refer the baby to a pediatric audiologist who performs an auditory brainstem response (ABR) for a diagnostic ABR hearing test. This diagnostic assessment should be completed by the time the baby is 3 months old.
- ❖ **One Outpatient Screen is Enough:** Well babies should only have one follow-up outpatient hearing screen for each ear. If a baby had an outpatient screening and did not pass, the next step would be for the PCP to refer the baby for a diagnostic hearing evaluation.

Contact Information:

Newborn Hearing Screening questions:
tehdi@dshs.texas.gov
Specific baby's hearing results questions:
tehdi@revvity.com or 888-727-3366.



ehdi-pals.org can help you find a pediatric audiologist in your area who can perform Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) testing.

¹. statutes.capitol.texas.gov/?tab=1&code=HS&chapter=HS.47&artSec=
². digitalcommons.usu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1104&context=jehdi