

Sample Hospital Procedure for Follow-up of Babies from Universal Newborn Hearing Screening (UNHS)

- 1) For babies who do not pass two UNHS screenings:
 - a. Prior to discharge, facility informs mother of screening results, need for follow-up diagnostic audiology testing, and location(s) of Level 1 Audiology Center(s).
 - b. Facility obtains physician referral (unless “standing orders” exists).
 - c. Facility contacts audiologist to schedule the follow-up testing.
 - d. Facility faxes physician’s referral and hospital referral form to audiologist.
 - e. Facility notifies mother of appointment date and time verbally and in writing and documents follow-up appointment on the discharge summary.*
 - f. Facility enters child into EARS within 5 business days of second screening and indicates diagnostic audiology appointment location, date and time in the comments section on the Monthly Summary Report (MSR) Exceptions page of EARS.

*If a child is not scheduled for diagnostic audiology testing prior to discharge (i.e. child is discharged on a weekend when audiology office is not open), the facility should contact the parent to schedule an appointment. If the facility is unable to reach the family by phone *and* schedule the baby within three days of discharge, the facility should fax a referral form (a sample template, Indiana Audiology Referral Form, is attached) to the child’s PCP with “Need assistance in scheduling this child for audiology follow-up” written on the form. The facility should maintain a copy of the faxed document.

- 2) For babies who pass UNHS, but are at risk for delayed onset hearing loss because of an identified risk factor:
 - a. Prior to discharge, facility notifies mother of UNHS results, the identified risk factor, and the need for follow-up diagnostic audiology testing at 9-12 months of age.
 - b. Facility enters child into EARS as an exception within 5 days of UNHS.
 - c. Facility notifies PCP of need for follow-up diagnostic audiology testing at 9-12 months of age (or earlier if concerns arise).