

Newborn Hearing Screening:

What to Do When Sharing “Refer” Results With Families



Do's

DO say a positive message

“Your baby didn’t pass the hearing screening which means that more information is needed about your baby’s hearing. The next step is to have a hearing rescreen”.
(indicate results for each ear/s)

DO give families the “Your Baby Needs Another Hearing Screening” brochure

“Here’s a brochure that explains why your baby needs another hearing screen”. Discuss how the family should follow-up with a rescreen appointment, according to your hospital’s screening procedures. Work with the family to schedule an appointment when the baby will be ideally two weeks old.



Don'ts

DO NOT say misleading messages

The baby failed
The baby has a hearing loss
Probably nothing is wrong
A lot of babies don’t pass
The baby doesn’t need follow-up testing
The baby was fussy
The equipment isn’t working right
It’s just fluid or vernix (We can’t assume this)

DO NOT perform multiple screens in an attempt to get a pass

A baby should not be screened more than three times as an inpatient. (This does not include troubleshooting)