

Guidelines for **Audiologic Follow-up Referrals** for Infants with Risk Factors

For infants who pass the newborn hearing screening but have any of the indicated risk factors for late onset or progressive hearing loss.

Prepared by DPH **First Sound**, South Carolina's Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program, in consultation with DPH medical consultants.

For additional information, please contact 803-898-0708.

TIER 1*

Schedule audiological follow-up by **30 days**** post discharge in the event of:

- Congenital cytomegalovirus (cCMV) infection
- Bacterial meningitis
- Parental or medical provider concern
- Lab evidence of Zika in mother and baby

TIER 2*

Schedule audiological follow-up by **3 months**** post discharge in the event of:

- Down syndrome
- Cleft lip/palate
- Craniofacial anomalies (e.g. microtia/atresia)
- ECMO
- Chemotherapy
- Family history (Immediate) of permanent childhood hearing loss (parents/siblings)***
- Hyperbilirubinemia with exchange transfusion or bilirubin >20 mg/dL
- Perinatal Asphyxia/Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy (HIE) Requiring Therapeutic Hypothermia
- Syndromes associated with hearing loss (e.g. CHARGE, Treacher Collins, Pierre Robin, Branchio-Oto-Renal (BOR), Waardenburg)
- Infant diagnosis of infection associated with hearing loss (e.g. herpes, rubella, syphilis, viral meningitis, toxoplasmosis, encephalitis)
- Significant head trauma especially basal skull/temporal bone fractures
- Aminoglycoside administration > 5 days

TIER 3*

Schedule audiological follow-up by **9 months**** post discharge in the event of:

- > 10 days mechanical ventilation
- < 32 weeks gestational age
- < 1500 grams birthweight
- Family history (Extended) of permanent childhood hearing loss (grandparents/aunts/uncles)***
- In utero exposure to active maternal infection (e.g. herpes, rubella, syphilis, toxoplasmosis)
- NICU > 5 days

* Report risk factor and follow-up appointment information to First Sound, family, and primary care physician

** When baby presents with multiple risk factors, adhere to the timeframe of the lowest tier

*** Excludes hearing loss resulting from acute illness or trauma

