

Some babies are born listeners; others need your help.



Nearly 1 in 1,000 babies are born with some degree of hearing loss. You can help your baby by making sure a hearing screening is done before your baby leaves the hospital or by one month of age. Follow up quickly if another screening or assessment is needed. Ask your baby's doctor to pay attention to your baby's hearing at every checkup. Some babies are born listeners; others need your help.



Is your baby at risk for hearing loss? Ask your doctor about delayed-onset hearing loss if any of these conditions apply.

Eleven risk indicators associated with congenital or delayed-onset hearing loss

- 1 Caregiver concern‡ regarding hearing, speech, language or developmental delay
- 2 Family history‡
- 3 Neonatal intensive care of more than 5 days
- 4 In utero infections
- 5 Craniofacial anomalies
- 6 Physical findings, such as white forelock
- 7 Syndromes associated with hearing loss or progressive or late-onset hearing loss‡
- 8 Neurodegenerative disorders‡
- 9 Culture-positive postnatal infections
- 10 Head trauma
- 11 Chemotherapy ‡

Risk indicators that are marked with a "‡" are of greater concern for delayed-onset hearing loss.

For more resources and information, contact Montana's hearing screening program at (406) 444-1216.



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