

UMass Memorial Newborn Hearing Screening Program
Preparation Guidelines for Infant Audiological Testing

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child has been referred for specialized hearing tests that requires him/her to be asleep for approximately 60-90 minutes. These tests are non-invasive; they merely require the placement of sticker-type sensors on your baby's head. These sensors detect brain activity while they listen to sounds played through soft earphones. These tests are very accurate for determining hearing sensitivity if your child is in a sound sleep-state throughout the testing. The following measures are strongly recommended to allow us to obtain reliable results.

Please note, these are recommended guidelines, however, you know your child best, so please adjust your child's schedule in whatever way you feel is necessary to best achieve this sleep state.

- Keep your child awake for some time prior to the testing appointment. Having another adult in the car to help keep the child awake during the ride to the hospital is often helpful.
- Please bring a bottle or be prepared to breastfeed just prior to the start of the test. Your child should arrive hungry and ready to be fed, so please adjust your child's feeding schedule accordingly. You will be given time and privacy to feed your child once you have arrived and the baby's skin has been prepped for placement of the sensors.
- Please do not bring other children to this appointment as we will need complete quiet in the test room and you will be required to remain in the room while your baby is being tested. Other children cannot be left unattended in our waiting room.

We realize that this preparation may put strain on you and your baby. The most common factor in not obtaining reliable results is insufficient preparation. If reliable results are not obtained, it will be necessary to reschedule and repeat the entire preparation and testing process. We appreciate all your efforts to help us provide you with the most accurate information regarding your child's hearing sensitivity.

Please arrive at the University Campus 15 minutes prior to the appointment time. This will allow you adequate time for parking and registration. To expedite the registration process, you may pre-register by calling (508) 334-9902 and select option 3. When you arrive at the hospital, take the "B" or "orange" elevator to level A. the Audiology Department is located across from this elevator bay.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Audiology Department at (774) 442-3996.

Sincerely,

The Diagnostic Audiology Team