

**YOUR HOSPITAL NAME HERE**

## **Newborn Hearing Screening**

**Baby Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parent,

The results of your baby's hearing screening show the need for further testing. We are referring your baby to an audiologist for a diagnostic hearing evaluation. There are several reasons why your baby may need further testing. The most common reasons are:

- ❖ Middle ear fluid or infection
- ❖ An ear canal blocked with debris
- ❖ A permanent hearing loss (approximately 3 in 1000 newborns)

Although it is unlikely your baby will have a hearing loss, if there is one, it is important that you know about it as soon as possible. It is through hearing that your child will learn to talk. The first two years of your child's life are the most important for learning speech and language. Because a hearing loss can prevent your baby from learning speech and language, it is important to diagnose hearing problems early.

We will notify your child's doctor that further evaluation is needed. A list of audiology facilities that can provide a diagnostic hearing evaluation has been provided to you. Please make sure to coordinate any necessary referrals with your child's doctor.

If you have any questions or concerns, please talk to your baby's doctor.

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## What to watch for in your baby's hearing...

### Birth to three months...

- ❖ Startles to sudden loud noises
- ❖ Stirs, wakes up, or cries to loud sounds
- ❖ Soothes or calms to your voice
- ❖ Makes cooing sounds

### Three to six months...

- ❖ Begins to turn eyes or head to sounds
- ❖ Stops crying when spoken to
- ❖ Awakens easily to sounds
- ❖ Begins making vowel sounds such as "ah" and "ou"

### Six to nine months...

- ❖ Looks for family members when named
- ❖ Turns head towards sounds
- ❖ Will respond to own name
- ❖ Responds to simple requests with gestures
- ❖ Begins babbling, such as "baba" and "mamama"
- ❖ Uses voice to get your attention

### Nine to twelve months...

- ❖ Understands "No", "Bye bye"
- ❖ Responds to soft sounds
- ❖ Looks at pictures when named
- ❖ Repeats simple sounds that you make
- ❖ Uses voice when playing alone