

Children are in a **developmental EMERGENCY** if their deafness or hard of hearing status goes undetected or is identified after 6 months of age. Children learn their native language between birth and five years old. Making language a large part of the developmental emergency. Knowing the child's hearing status will benefit doctors, parents, and early intervention professionals to help the child succeed.

Ensuring families are referred to early intervention services can improve outcomes. Following the 1-3-6 Guidelines can help.

- By 1 month of age the child should receive the newborn hearing screen. If the results indicate further testing is needed then repeat hearing testing should be scheduled.
- By 3 months of age the child's hearing status should have been determined.
- By 6 months of age, if the child has been identified as deaf or hard of hearing, early intervention services should begin.

There are **risk factors associated with late onset of deaf/hard of hearing status**. The following is a list of risk factors that warrant repeat hearing screening by 12 months of age. Regardless of a newborn's first hearing screening results:

- Caregiver concerns regarding hearing status
- Family History of permanent childhood deafness or hard of hearing
- Neonatal intensive care of more than 5 days
- In-utero infections (CMV, herpes, rubella, zika, syphilis, toxoplasmosis)
- Craniofacial anomalies
- Syndromes associated with hearing status such as Waardenburg, Alport, Pendred, Jervell and Lange-Nielson.
- Syndromes associated with hearing status and neurodegenerative Disorder is Hunter syndrome. Sensory motor neuropathies such as Friedreich ataxia and Charcot-Marie-Tooth syndrome.
- Infections after birth are associated with a hearing status such as from (herpes and varicella) bacterial or viral meningitis.
- Culture positive postnatal infections.
- Head Trauma requiring hospitalization
- Chemotherapy
- Exchange Transfusion for elevated bilirubin,
- Ototoxic Medications > 5 days (mycins)
- ECMO or Assisted Ventilation
- Loop diuretics (furosemide/Lasix).