



Hackensack  
Meridian *Health*  
Joseph M. Sanzari  
Children's Hospital

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child has been scheduled for a hearing test. For infants, the audiologist uses the auditory brainstem response test (ABR) to determine whether or not your child's ears are processing sound normally. The audiologist may also use one or two other tests to verify the ABR results. Normal hearing, as you know, is important for developing speech and language.

Procedures:

The baby is brought into a quiet room where small plastic sensors are placed behind the baby's ears and on the forehead after the skin is gently cleaned. Soft foam earphones are gently inserted into the baby's ears to present several different sounds (one at a time) beginning at soft/low loudness levels. **The baby must sleep during testing:** resting in a car seat, stroller, or parent's arms. While your baby sleeps, recordings are made of the child's brain response to sound, allowing us to determine the ears' ability to process sounds.

- BRING THE BABY AWAKE, TIRED, AND HUNGRY! You will be given an opportunity to feed the baby and put the baby to sleep AFTER the testing has been setup (sensors are on and earphones are in). THE TEST CAN **ONLY** BE DONE WHEN BABY IS **SLEEPING!!**
- ✓ Testing is painless and involves no risks.
- ✓ Test time is approximately 45 minutes *after the baby falls asleep.*
- ✓ Baby may use pacifier during testing.
- ✓ Test results will be given to the parent(s) verbally after testing is completed.
- ✓ Written report of this test may be sent to the child's pediatrician or other doctor/agency at your request.

The benefits of this test are to provide you with information about your child's hearing and to contribute to the clinical management of infants and young children with hearing loss. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Dr. Ken Bodkin at 551-996-5337.

Sincerely

Kenneth A. Bodkin, Au.D.  
Manager, Audiology Department