



Vision and Hearing Screening Procedure (0-3 Years)

Purpose

This document tells Site/Center teams how to gather information to determine whether a child needs further diagnostic evaluation of their vision and hearing status, and to document that these areas have been addressed.

Guidance

Early Head Start uses a three-pronged approach designed by Washington Sensory Disabilities Services. Site teams work with parents to document concerns, observable infant behaviors, and signs that may indicate high risk for vision impairment or hearing loss. The three-pronged approach was designed to blend with the routine gathering of information from parents as well as from your observations of the infant/toddler. All children are to be screened with Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE).

Procedure

Infant and children's vision and hearing screenings must be completed within 45 days of enrollment.

Fill out the following forms with parent:

- *Vision and Hearing Parent Interview Questions Part One- (0-3)* – contains questions that can be included in first conversations with families.
- *Vision and Hearing Checklist (0-3) Part Two* – a form to identify a child's abilities based on chronological age.
- *Otoacoustic Emissions Screening (OAE) Screening Form:*
 - Perform OAE screening, enter results on OAE Hearing Screening Form, and place the form in the child's file.
 - Transfer the results of the OAE screening to the Vision and Hearing Summary Form part three and provide parents with a copy of this form.
 - Each child is screened by OAE annually.
- *Vision and Hearing Screening Summary (0-3) Part Three:*
Relevant information from each of the forms listed above, and other sources, such as the Well Child Exam and Birth History form, may be transferred to the corresponding section on this form.
- All three parts are to be sent in to the Early Learning Health Information Line after the results from the OAE have been recorded on the summary. Fax paperwork to 888-979-5897 or Scan/Email to health@pugetsoundhs.org.

Rescreening:

- All Children: Each year the child is enrolled in Early Head Start, the site team and parents will review and update the *Vision and Hearing Checklist (0-3)*. Results from this form along with parent/site team observations and other pertinent prenatal, health and developmental concerns are to be recorded on the *Vision & Hearing Screening Summary Form (0-3.) Both parts, the checklist and summary, are updated annually and are sent into the Health Information line.*
- All children: Each year, they will receive an OAE screening and this is recorded on the Vision and Hearing Screening Summary form part three and sent to the Health Information Line
- Children not passing OAE: Children will be rescreened within two weeks. Rescreen results are entered onto the OAE Hearing Screening Form.

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- Child not passing a second OAE screening: The child is referred to PHCP for a middle ear evaluation. Complete the Diagnostic Follow-up form (referral from OAE hearing screening) for parents to take to the child's PHCP.
- After being seen by PHCP: If the child is cleared for middle ear issues, the child is then screened by OAE a third time.
- If child does not pass the third screening, complete the OAE rescreen section of the Diagnostic Follow-up form (referral from OAE hearing screening) and send with the parent for the child's follow up appointment.
- Advise your Sr. Health Coordinator if a referral has been made for a pediatric audiologist. Record and file all screening results, parent/guardian communications and follow up notes.

Related Documents

Vision and Hearing Parent Interview Questions (0-3) Part 1 of 3

Vision and Hearing Checklist (0-3) Part 2 of 3

Vision & Hearing Screening Summary Form (0-3) Part 3 of 3

OAE Hearing Screening Form (to be filed in child's file)

Diagnostic Follow-up Form (Referral from OAE hearing screening)

Resources

Explaining Screening Results to Parents (ECHO 6 page document). A tool (sample script) of how staff can explain the OAE screening steps to parents. (see Health, Nutrition and Safety Hub)

Observations: What to Look For

A resource tool with pictures and descriptions of signs that may be observable or reported by parents. (see Health, Nutrition & Safety Hub)

Infant Audiology Services website: http://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/Pubs/344-040_EHDDIPedAudioSvcs.pdf

A website to refer children under 1 year old with potential vision concerns for free vision screening.

Infant See website: <http://stage.infantsee.org/x3423.xml>

A website to learn more about OAE screening and information: www.kidshearing.org

How teachers and parents can accommodate a child's Temporary or Permanent Hearing Loss (see Health, Nutrition & Safety Hub)