

## Patient advice and liaison service (PALS)

If you have a compliment, complaint or concern please contact our PALS team on 020 7288 5551 or [whh-tr.whitthealthPALS@nhs.net](mailto:whh-tr.whitthealthPALS@nhs.net)

If you need a large print, audio or translated copy of this leaflet please contact us on 020 7288 3182. We will try our best to meet your needs.

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## 8 Month Follow Up Newborn Hearing Screening



## What can you do?

Once you get home from hospital please tell your Health Visitor or GP that your baby has been identified as needing an 8 month hearing assessment so that they can make a note of this on your baby's records.

If you change address before your appointment arrives then please let your new Health Visitor or GP know that you are waiting for an audiology appointment.

Please try to attend your baby's 8 month audiology appointment as this forms an important part of the monitoring of your baby's hearing development.

However, should you no longer wish to take up the offer of an 8 month hearing test then please let the audiology department know so that they can amend your baby's records and offer the appointment to another family.

Within your baby's Personal Child Health Record (also known as the Red Book) are two checklists situated on pages 25 and 26.

These checklists are called *Can Your Baby Hear* and *Checklists for Making Sounds* and you may find it useful to look at these as your baby grows.

Should you be concerned about your baby's hearing or speech development at any time - then please speak to your Health Visitor or GP.

## Your Baby's 8 month Follow Up Hearing Test

The Newborn Hearing screener will have completed your baby's newborn hearing screen but has also informed you that your baby will need another hearing assessment at around 8 months old – this is age corrected in preterm infants.

They will have explained to you that this additional assessment is offered to babies who have been identified as needing to have their hearing monitored and assessed more closely as they grow.

This 8 month assessment is done at a specialist audiology (hearing) clinic by a member of the audiology team.

The purpose of this additional assessment (also called a Targeted Hearing Test) is to monitor your baby's hearing development and follows national guidance from Public Health England and the UK National Screening Committee.

## What Happens Next

The Newborn Hearing screener will give you a copy of the hearing screening result – either as a loose leaf copy or by writing this into your baby's Personal Child Health Record (also known as the Red Book).

The hearing screener will let the audiology team know via the hearing screening database that your baby needs another assessment at 8 months.

The audiology team will then send an appointment nearer to the time at the home address that we have for you on our database.

The appointment letter that they send you will give you more information on the venue and details of what you need to do and what you can expect at the appointment.