Florida Newborn Hearing Screening

Heather J. Stalker, M.Sc., C.G.C.
Genetic Counselor
Division of Genetics and Metabolism
University of Florida
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Florida Statutes 383.145: all newborns screened

- All licensed hospitals and birthing facilities providing maternity and newborn care
  - Screen prior to discharge
- Home births also require referral
  - within 30 days after birth
Screening Methods

- Auditory Brain Response (ABR)
- Otoacoustic Emissions Testing (OAE)
Otoacoustic Emissions Testing (OAE)
Auditory Brain Response (ABR)
• Fail in one or both ears
• Performed one to two times
• Conducted by licensed or trained professionals
Performed a few hours after birth to 30 days after discharge using the OAE or ABR

- Pass
- Fail

Rescreened (either in hospital or after) and the status is recorded on the newborn screening card

- Pass
- Fail

Status recorded on newborn screening card and the hearing screening is completed

Referred to Audiologist within 15 working days of failing screen and follow-up letter or phone call made by Newborn Hearing Screening Staff

- Confirmation

Referred for medical management, and to the CMS Early Intervention Program
## State of Florida 2012

### Department of Health Data (1-25-13)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total newborns screened</td>
<td>204,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total passed</td>
<td>197,293</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total referred due to failure of initial screen (presumptive positives)</td>
<td>6,707</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total with actual hearing impairment from those referred</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- **About 1 in 28 babies referred have confirmed hearing loss**
- **~ 1/1,200 babies born in Florida have confirmed hearing loss**