

NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING IN GRACE CENTRE FOR NEWBORN INTENSIVE CARE - CHW PROCEDURE®

DOCUMENT SUMMARY/KEY POINTS

- This document should be read in conjunction with the State-wide Infant Screening Hearing (SWISH) Guideline NSW and Western Sydney Local Health District policies, May 2012.
https://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/pds/Pages/doc.aspx?dn=GL2010_002
https://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/pds/ActivePDSDocuments/GL2010_002.pdf
- Infants born at 34 weeks gestational age or greater and less than 6 months of age are included in the program and a hearing screen will be offered as soon as possible after birth.
- However, the screen is not suitable for some babies because the screen may not be accurate in these cases. These babies are referred directly for diagnostic assessment by an audiologist. Please see "Why has my baby been referred directly for a diagnostic audiology assessment?"
<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/kidsfamilies/MCFhealth/Pages/referral.aspx>
- Screening staff from WSLHD attend the unit to conduct screening every Wednesday.
- Screeners will obtain an up-to-date patient list and note new admissions as well as make up report forms for newborns that have not had a hearing screen and place those forms in the SWISH CHW nursery folder.
- Screening staff will liaise with the NUM to determine if any neonates are being discharged who need a hearing screen performed prior to discharge.
- In the event of an unplanned discharge please contact the SWISH manager.
- If an infant has missed a routine hearing screening as an inpatient, contact SWISH to arrange for the family to visit the SWISH office at Westmead Hospital for screening prior to discharge.

This document reflects what is currently regarded as safe practice. However, as in any clinical situation, there may be factors which cannot be covered by a single set of guidelines. This document does not replace the need for the application of clinical judgement to each individual presentation.

Approved by:	SCHN Policy, Procedure and Guidelines Committee	
Date Effective:	1 st April 2022	Review Period: 3 years
Team Leader:	Nurse Educator	Area/Dept: GCNC

- Any newborn not screened at CHW will be referred to the SWISH Manager WSLHD who will email the LHD SWISH Manager where the newborn was born to organise an outpatient appointment in a facility geographically accessible.
- Written consent is obtained for neonates separated from their parents to perform a hearing screen.
- Staff will give parents/guardians verbal and written information including the brochure on the nature and purpose of hearing screen 'Why does my baby need a hearing check?' <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/kidsfamilies/MCFhealth/Pages/swish-translations.aspx#bookmark1>
- The SWISH result is recorded electronically at CHW and in the newborn's PHR (Personal Health Record Book) and a blue swish dot is placed on the newborns cot card when SWISH is completed.
- SWISH Manager WSLHD: Phone: 8759 3393 Mobile: 0438165372 Fax: 8759 3550

Note: The policy has been developed by WSLHD for WSLHD staff to screen neonates in GCNC.

CHANGE SUMMARY

Summary of changes to the practice of newborn hearing screening

- Information updated to reflect changes policy documents
- Hyperlink to Western Sydney Local Health District policy updated
- Link to why does my baby need a hearing check document
- Consideration of post discharge screening for patients who may have missed the routine screening time.

READ ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- All clinical staff in CHW Grace Centre for Newborn Intensive Care should be aware of this document.

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