



family birth center
more than you're expecting

Dear Parents,

Congratulations on the newest addition to your family from the staff of the Family Birth Center at Saint Clare's Hospital!

One of the important tests that your baby has had at Saint Clare's is a newborn hearing test. All newborns should be screened for hearing loss. A baby born with a hearing loss misses all or part of words spoken to him or her. This delays the baby's ability to learn to talk and to understand what others are saying. Babies just a few weeks old who are found to have hearing loss can be referred immediately to the people, programs, and services they need to help them develop strong communication skills.

Your baby's hearing was tested by either OAE (a hearing test that uses a tiny probe in the ear canal) or ABR (a hearing test that uses several patches on the scalp). Both of these methods are screening tests that help us identify babies that might have a hearing problem.

Your baby passed the newborn hearing screen. This is a good indication that hearing is normal at this time. However, hearing loss can develop during childhood, so it is important to track your child's responses to sounds and words and to track your child's speech development. We have attached a pamphlet with a checklist so you will know what to expect as your baby grows.

Your baby's hearing should be checked again by the age of 1 year and any time that you have concerns about hearing.

The Family Birth Center Staff
Saint Clare's Hospital



Saint Clare's Hospital

MINISTRY HEALTH CARE

Sponsored by Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother



MINISTRY HEALTH CARE

Dear Parents,

Congratulations on the newest addition to your family from the Family Birth Center at Saint Clare's Hospital!

We strive to provide the best care for you and your baby. One of the important tests that your baby has had at Saint Clare's is a hearing test. Your baby's hearing was tested by two different methods, one that uses a tiny probe in the ear canal (OAE), and another that uses several patches on the scalp (ABR). Both of these methods are screening tests that help us identify babies the **might** have a hearing problem.

Why is it important to check your baby's hearing while they are so little? We have learned that when we can find the babies with a hearing problem and get them help before they are 6 months old, they will develop strong speech and language skills. If children with a hearing loss are not found until toddler or pre-school age, their speech and language skills don't develop as they should and many years of remedial therapy are needed.

Your baby did **not** pass the hearing screen on one or both of their ears. This does not mean that your baby has a hearing problem. It does mean that your baby has to have another hearing test at about 2 weeks of age.

Many babies who do not pass their hearing screen in the hospital eventually have a normal hearing test. If the repeat hearing testing does show that your baby has a hearing loss, we will help to make sure the baby gets to help as soon as possible.

We have arranged a repeat hearing test for your baby as listed below. If you have any questions about this testing, please talk to your baby's doctor.

Your baby's hearing test is scheduled for: _____

Marshfield Clinic-Weston Center Audiology Department

715-847-3277 or 1800-847-0016, ext 73232

3501 Cranberry Blvd

Weston, WI 54476

****Please use Entrance/Parking Lot #1****

Thank you for helping us to take good care of your baby.

The Family Birth Center Staff
Saint Clare's Hospital

