

New **Born** Screening for **Hearing**



We all can hear ...





Importance

Incidence of hearing impairment in a standardized population of neonates is 4 per 1000.

Hearing Impairment is a hidden disability, usually detected only after 2 years of age. Late detection causes irreversible stunting of language development potential of the child. Detection of hearing impairment in infants by 6 months of age has proven advantages, over those detected later, in acquiring normal speech & language regardless of the degree of hearing impairment.

Most of the neonatal facilities in the United States and European Union have enforced mandatory screening of all newborns. These programs have demonstrated a definite reduction in the age of detection of hearing impairment. Oto Acoustic Emission (OAE) can be used for the screening of neonates successfully because it is a very sensitive, non - invasive, cost and time effective method.



How it works

A trained audiologist carries out the test in a quiet room. He places a small soft tipped ear piece in the outer part of your baby's ear, which sends clicking sounds down the ear. This does not cause any harm or pain. When the ear receives sound, the inner part, known as the cochlea, produces an echo. Using an automated machine, the audiologist can see how your baby's ears respond to the sound. Each ear is tested in turn. The test takes about 5 to 10 minutes. The test has a sensitivity of more than 90%.

The audiologist will explain the results of the OAE test to you after the test is completed. If your baby does not pass the test, the audiologist will arrange for further investigations like BERA (Brainstem Evoked Response Audiometry) and ASSR (Auditory Steady State Response). These investigations give you better information about your baby's hearing.

Which children require the test most

- Consanguineous marriage.
- Premature delivery.
- Having family history of deafness.
- Prenatal maternal problems like Rubella, fits, Hypertension etc.
- Fetal distress.
- Neonatal jaundice etc.

What GLOW will assist

- Free OAE test.
- Free ASSR test.
- Free counselling regarding hearing & speech problems and its management.



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