

## BABY HEARING MILESTONES

Hearing milestones are listed below so that you can monitor your baby's development. This is important as hearing loss can develop during childhood.

### BIRTH - THREE MONTHS:

- Is startled or jumps when there is a sudden noise nearby
- Tends to wake up, stir or cry when there is noise
- Quietens when they hear your voice

### THREE - SIX MONTHS:

- Your baby turns their eyes towards interesting sounds
- Appears to listen to voices and other sounds
- Awakes easily to sound

### SIX - TWELVE MONTHS:

- Turns head to soft sounds
- Understands "no" and "bye- bye"
- Begins to copy speech sounds



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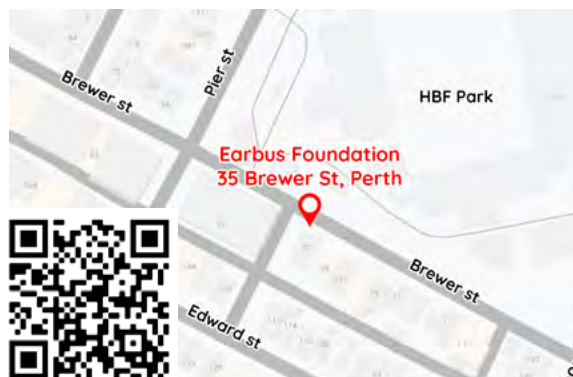
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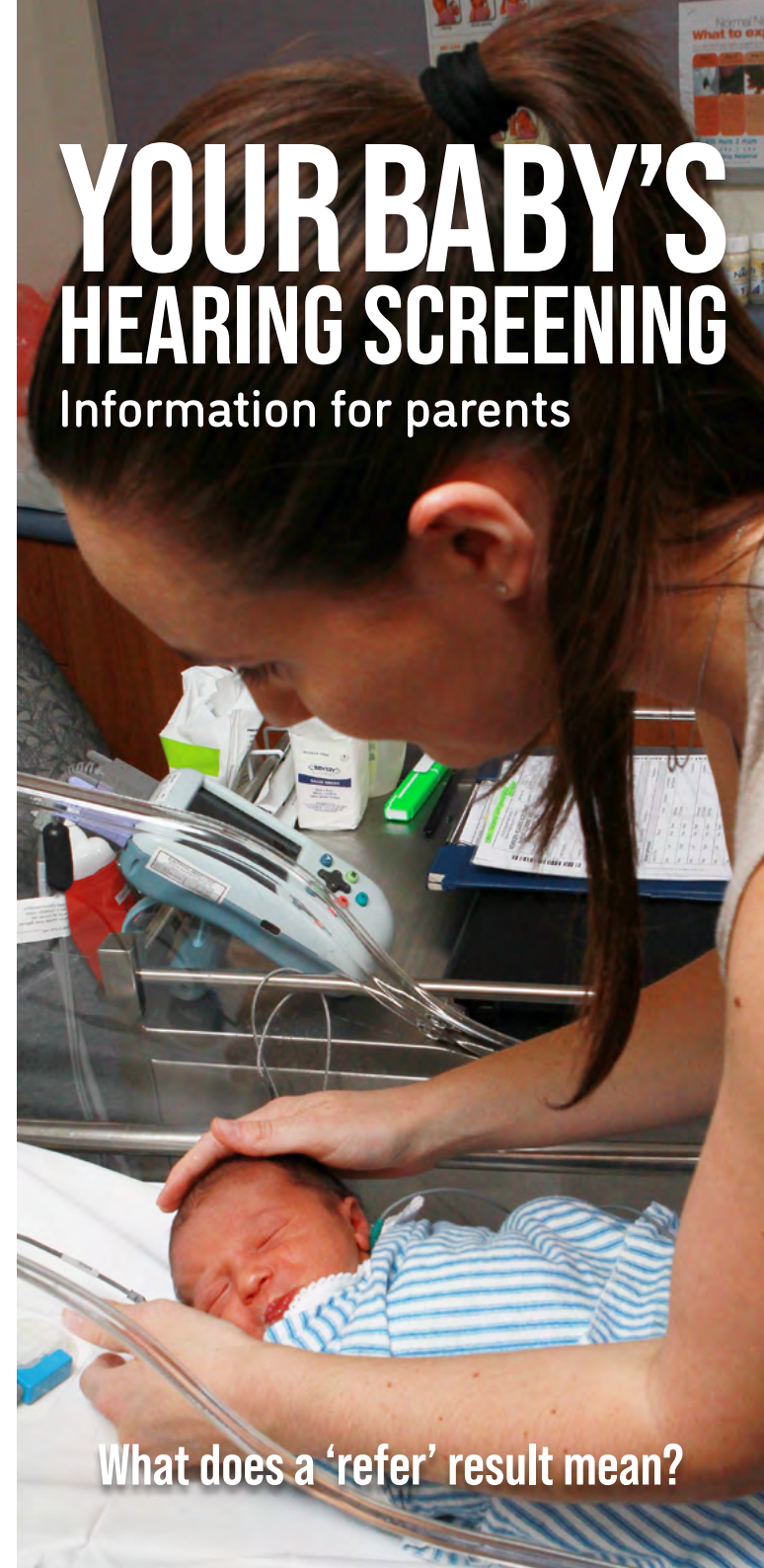


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We would love to hear your feedback, visit our website and let us know about your experience.  
[hearttoday.org.au/feedback](http://hearttoday.org.au/feedback)

# YOUR BABY'S HEARING SCREENING

## Information for parents



What does a 'refer' result mean?

# YOUR BABY HAS RETURNED A REFER RESULT AFTER THE FIRST SCREENING

## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

There may be several reasons as to why your baby returned a refer result. These include:

- Your baby was unsettled during the first screening
- Your baby's skin was too moist for the screen at this stage
- Your baby's ear canal was not completely clear following the birth and this is a temporary issue that will likely resolve over the next few days
- Your baby has a temporary hearing loss
- Your baby has a permanent hearing loss



If a baby refers in the first screen, a second screen is done. Both screens require baby to be asleep and settled.

## BUT MY BABY SEEMS TO RESPOND TO SOUNDS, DO THEY NEED A SECOND SCREEN?

It is very important that your baby has the second screen. Babies who have a hearing loss will still usually react to some sounds but not all pitches (at soft levels). If your baby does have a hearing loss it is important that you are referred to services to help with speech and language development before 3 months of age.

## YOUR BABY RETURNS A REFER RESULT AFTER THE 2<sup>ND</sup> SCREEN

If your baby refers at the second hearing screen you will be referred to an Audiologist (a clinician who specialises in testing the hearing of babies and children). Your Doctor or Screener can discuss this with you.

## LEARN MORE ABOUT NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING

[www.heartoday.org.au](http://www.heartoday.org.au)