

Management of Hearing Health in Children with Down Syndrome Checklist

Newborn to 1 month

- Newborn Hearing Screening (NBHS)
- If infant referred on NBHS, refer to otolaryngologist
- Refer to early intervention within 48 hours of dx of HL

Infancy: 1 month to 1 year

- If infant passed NBHS, rescreen at 6 months
- Stenotic canals – otolaryngologist should perform exam with microscope and continue every 3 to 6 months until ear drum can be visualized.
- Behavioral audiogram by 1 year of age OR repeat ABR

Early Childhood: 1 to 4 years

- Review risk of hearing loss associated with otitis media
- For child who passed NBHS or dx hearing testing, audiogram & tympanometry should be performed every 6 months until normal hearing levels are established bilaterally by ear-specific testing
- Behavioral hearing tests should be performed annually. If unable to achieve, consider objective measures (with sedation if necessary)
- Children with hearing loss should continue seeing otolaryngologist
- Remember the importance of optimal hearing for speech development and learning

Late Childhood: 5 to 12 years

- Obtain annual ear-specific audiologic evaluation
If middle ear disease occurs, obtain developmentally appropriate hearing evaluation after treatment (same for 12 to 21 years)

Contact Hearts for Hearing to schedule a hearing screening or evaluation

OKC 405-548-4300 | Tulsa 918-392-7600