



## Introducing the Newborn Hearing Screening Training Curriculum

### What is it?

The newborn Hearing Screening Training Curriculum (NHSTC) is a training tool in DVD format, developed for hospital based screeners. It is meant to be used as a competency based, standardized training, geared for the inexperienced screener. It covers all of the critical information important for conducting quality and efficient newborn hearing screening.

### How do we get it?

Contact the Nevada EHDI Program to obtain a disc of the training curriculum. Use it independently or as part of a live presentation with one of our Audiology Consultants.

### What does it consist of?

There are 8 sections or modules, covering the following aspects of the newborn hearing screening process:

- Section 1-Introduction to Newborn Hearing Screening
- Section 2-Getting Ready to Screen
- Section 3-Screening with Otoacoustic Emissions (OAEs)
- Section 4-Screening with Automated Auditory Brainstem Response (A-ABR),
- Section 5-Completing the Screening Process
- Section 6-Communicating with Parents and the Medical Providers
- Section 7-Screening Babies with Risk Indicators
- Section 8-Outpatient Screening/Re-screening
- Resource Disc

In its entirety, the curriculum will take approximately 70 minutes to complete. Each section lasts between 5 and 13 minutes and contains audio, video and pictures to accommodate a variety of learning styles. At the end of each section there is a test, which can be used to fulfill hospital competency requirements.

In addition, there is a resource disc which has a lot of information that can be useful for both the screener and the program manager.

For screeners:

- scripts for screeners to use when communicating with parents in both English and Spanish (these should be printed and practiced with a partner)
- glossary with definitions
- links to related websites
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) that parent's may ask

For program managers:

- competency check lists for "hands-on screening" techniques
- test questions, answers and a test answer form
- JCIH 2007 Position Statement and program checklist



## What it does *NOT* consist of?

Although NHSTC will provide the screener with what they need to learn about the screening process, it will not mean that a screener can competently operate neither the equipment nor an infant independently. Prior to screening babies, it is always recommended that a new screener is able to demonstrate the important “hands-on” skills needed for efficient screening. This can be accomplished under the supervision of the program manager or a designated experienced screener. In the resource section, competency check lists are available to validate and document these skills.

## How should it be used?

The first 6 sections are considered part of the core or required curriculum, however, if the hospital is not screening with OAEs, Section 3 can be skipped, and if the hospital is not screening with automated ABR, Section 4 can be skipped. If both OAE and automated ABR are being used to screen babies, the screener should watch both sections. Sections 7-Screening Babies with Risk Indicators and Section 8-Outpatient Screening/Re-screening are considered optional depending on whether the hospital has high-risk infants or a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and an outpatient screening program. In addition, each section contains a lot of information; therefore, for optimal learning, it is recommended that the modules be watched in two or more separate sessions, not all at one time.

## About

- The NHSTC is a collaborative project between *the National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management (NCHAM)* and *the EAR Foundation of Arizona (EFAZ)*
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- These materials do not intend to endorse any particular products or hearing screening systems.