

Altrincham Hospital

Information for Patients

Newborn Hearing Screen - Altrincham

Information about your appointment

Your child has been referred for a hearing assessment; this is most likely to be a follow up from the Newborn Hearing Screen or as a result of illness/ treatment at birth.

If you require an interpreter than please contact the department and we can arrange one for you.

What will we do?

History

We will ask you some questions about your child's responses to sounds and a brief medical history

Hearing Test

There are two different types of hearing tests which may be performed, both tests are routine and are performed whilst your baby is asleep.

- 1. Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE)**- this involves placing a small tip in your child's ear canal and playing a sound, if your child's ear 'detects' the sound then the ear sends an 'echo' back which we record, demonstrating that the ear can detect sound.
- 2. Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR)**- this test involves attaching 3 recording wires, one on the forehead and behind each ear, using stickers. We can then record the brain's response to sounds that are delivered via headphones. To achieve accurate results we need babies to be asleep throughout the test.



Results

We will inform you of the results on the day.

How long will it take?

1 hour and 30 minutes is set aside for this type of appointment, sometimes the appointment can be very quick depending on whether baby sleeps and which test is required. We suggest you bring a change of nappies and milk. Some parents find holding baby in one position for a length of time quite uncomfortable, so please feel free to bring your pram with you to the appointment.

What do I need to do?




The tests requires baby to be asleep therefore it would be ideal if you could bring them tired or needing a feed. This allows us to attach the recording stickers prior to feeding and settling. Don't worry if your child falls asleep on the journey to the appointment as if they are due a feed, hopefully they will resettle if attaching the recording stickers wakes them.

What to do if you can't attend the appointment?

Please contact us as soon as possible if you cannot attend so that we can offer the appointment to another child. Please try to keep to this appointment as the test is best carried out when the baby is a few weeks old due to their sleeping patterns.

Parking

Altrincham is a busy town centre location and has no designated car parking facilities. If you choose to travel by car please allow extra time for traffic and finding nearby public parking. Disabled patients can secure an underground car parking space in advance by calling the hospital prior to their appointment on 0161 413 7700.

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 <https://mft.nhs.uk/trafford/services/audiology-children/>