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NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING

Hearing loss occurs in newborns more frequently than any other health condition for which newborn screening is currently required. Moreover, early detection of hearing loss in a child and early intervention and treatment before six months of age has been demonstrated to be highly effective in facilitating a child's healthy development in a manner consistent with the child's age and cognitive ability. Eighty percent of a child's ability to learn speech, language and related cognitive skills is established by the time the child is 36 months of age, and hearing is vitally important to the healthy development of such language skills. Appropriate screening and identification of newborns and infants with hearing loss will facilitate early intervention and treatment in the critical time period for language development.

As such, laws have been instituted to require that each newborn has his/her hearing tested (NEW JERSEY PERMANENT STATUTES 26:2-103.3a & 103.4). However, it is preferable that the newborn hearing screening is done at least 24 hours after birth. Patients delivering at the birthing center will almost never be at the facility 24 hours after birth. As such, the policy of Our Birthing Center is to refer patients to an outside audiologist who can perform the newborn hearing screening and report the test results to the State as mandated.

We have teamed up with renowned Audiologist Doris A. Rapisardi of Styletone Hearing Care, LLC who has extensive experience with newborn hearing screening. Her office is located at 860 Rt. 10 West, Randolph, NJ 07869. The office can be contacted at 973-927-3433.

Additionally, the state has a comprehensive list of all facilities which are approved to administer the newborn hearing screening. The list can be accessed at www.Hearinghelp4kids.nj.gov and one can search for a facility by City or County.

The following is a list of facilities in Morris County which can perform the hearing screening.

Styletone Hearing Care (Doris Rapisardi)	860 Rt. 10 West Randolph, New Jersey	(973) 927-3433
MidAtlantic Neonatology Associates	140 East Hanover Avenue Cedar Knolls, New Jersey	(201) 582-2399
Atlantic Rehabilitation Institute (MMC)	6 Saddle Road Cedar Knolls, New Jersey	(855) 862-2778
Speech and Hearing Associates	3155 Route 10 East Denville, New Jersey	(973) 664-6990
Summit Medical Group	51 Rt. 23 South Riverdale, New Jersey	(973) 831-1220

Parents are reminded that it is their responsibility to contact a provider and schedule a hearing screening. Parents of the newborn may object to such screening on the grounds that the screening conflicts with the parents' bona fide religious tenets or practices.

Signature of Mother

Date

Signature of Father/Spouse/Partner

Date