

We can test your newborn's hearing

Why?

The purpose is early detection of hearing loss so we can provide support and aid to enable good language development.

It used to be difficult to perform hearing tests on small children.

Discovering if a child has poor hearing is not always easy.

When and where is the test done?

We can perform a hearing scanning a day or two after your child's birth.

If the scan is not done during your stay at the maternity ward or if the test needs to be redone, this can be arranged during your check-up at the ward or at the Audiology Department (Hörselkliniken),

Karolinska University Hospital in Huddinge or Solna.

How is the scan performed?

We use a method called the otoacoustic emission test (OAE).

A tiny plug is placed in your baby's ear.

The plug has two channels, a sound transmitter and a microphone. The transmitter issues a clicking sound that sets the ear's hair cells in motion. These movements produce a weak sound that the microphone can pick up.

A satisfactory result means we can rule out hearing loss that may affect language development.

The hearing scan takes just a few minutes and is completely painless.

If results are not satisfactory?

For some children, the results of the scan are not satisfactory but most of these children still have normal hearing. Test results can be influenced by the presence of amniotic fluid or fat in the ear canal. The

scan will be redone if there is no response. Hearing loss is detected in 1 to 2 per 1,000 newborns. The Audiology Department monitors the progress of these children.

And remember, hearing problems can arise later in life and are primarily due to middle-ear catarrh. It is therefore important to pay special attention to your child's hearing and language development.

Questions?

For more information, please visit the Audiology Department's web site

www.karolinska.se



The following hospitals perform
newborn hearing screening:

BB Stockholm

Danderyds Sjukhus

Karolinska University Hospital,
Huddinge and Solna

Södersjukhuset

Södertälje sjukhus

Södra BB



Newborn hearing scanning