

Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) Test



Audiology and Speech Language Pathology Department

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Your baby's appointment

Your baby has been scheduled for an Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) test:

Arrival time in the Audiology Department:

9:00 AM _____

1:00 PM _____

There are no supervised play areas in the hearing clinic. If you need to bring other children with you, please bring another adult to look after them.

What is an ABR test?

An ABR test measures how the hearing nerve and brainstem respond to sounds. It helps us understand how your baby hears.

The ABR test is done while your baby sleeps.

You will sit with your baby in a comfortable chair. Two recording sensors are placed on your baby's forehead and one behind each ear. Sounds are played through earphones that fit in your baby's ears and the recording sensors pick up the responses. In most cases,



the results of the test will be explained to you immediately after the test. The ABR test is safe and does not hurt your baby.

The appointment is scheduled for 3 hours. This allows time for your baby to fall asleep and for us to complete the test.

What can I do to prepare?

Please bring your baby to the appointment awake, but tired and ready to sleep. We realize this is not easy. We need your baby awake at the start of the appointment, but we will help you settle your baby to sleep in the clinic shortly after you arrive.

Here are some suggestions to help your baby sleep during the test:

- Keep your baby awake for at least 1 hour **before** the test.
- Try to delay feeding your baby for about 1½ hours **before** the appointment.
- Bring any special blankets or items that may help your baby sleep.
- If you are driving to the appointment, have an extra adult in the car to play with your baby to keep him or her awake.
- You may feed your baby as the test begins to help your baby fall asleep.

Call if you need help or have a question

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the clinic at: 604-875-2112 or Toll Free in BC at: 1-888-300-3088 extension 2112.

Developed by the health professionals of the Audiology and Speech Language Pathology Department with assistance from the Learning & Development Department.