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Telehealth Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) Test

Your baby's appointment

Your baby has been scheduled for a Telehealth Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) test on:

Arrival time in the Audiology Clinic: _____

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

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 will be explained to you immediately after the test by an Audiologist (a hearing specialist). The ABR test is safe and does not hurt your baby.

What is a Telehealth ABR test?

Telehealth uses **secure and private** videoconferencing and supporting technology that connects patients to health care services regardless of where they live.

Telehealth ABR allows the Audiologist at BC Children's Hospital to perform an ABR test on their computer while you and your baby are at your local Northern Health Audiology Clinic.

The ABR test is performed the same way regardless of whether or not you have it done in person at BC Children's Hospital or at your Northern Health Audiology Clinic using Telehealth. The only



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difference with Telehealth is that you will see and speak with the Audiologist over the computer rather than in person.

The Audiologist and the Northern Health Audiometric Assistant work together as a team for your baby's ABR testing. The Audiometric Assistant will be in the room with you for the entire test.

How long is the appointment?

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

What can I do to prepare for the ABR Test?

Your baby **must be asleep for testing**.

Please do what you can to bring your baby to the appointment awake but ready to sleep once the test starts. We realize this is not easy.

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 time.
- 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.

Important information

By accepting this appointment, you understand that your baby will receive his or her ABR test through Telehealth services. This is the standard service model for the Northern Health Authority. If in-person testing in Vancouver is a better option for your family, please talk with the Audiometric Assistant at the Northern Health Audiology Clinic.

Very rarely, technical difficulties result in cancelled appointments. We will make every effort to contact you ahead of time to let you know if this occurs. In this situation, your baby's appointment will be rebooked.

Call if you need help or have a question

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Northern Health Audiometric Assistant at the Audiology Clinic identified at the top of this instructions sheet.