

# LMC/Paediatrician Referral to UNHSEIP for Hearing Surveillance for Babies

## Purpose

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This policy outlines the process for a Lead Maternity Carer (LMC), Medical, Nursing and Midwifery staff to identify those babies who require referral for UNHSEIP hearing surveillance.

## Policy

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This policy will ensure that all babies needing to be referred to the UNHSEIP will be and that the referrer has acknowledgement of this referral.

## Scope

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All LMCs medical and Midwifery/Nursing staff will use this policy along with the coordinator and screeners of the UNHSEIP.

## Measurement or evaluation

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All babies who require hearing surveillance will be referred to the UNHSEIP and will be seen and assessed by audiology no later than 18 months of age; thus meeting the NSU goals of completing surveillance by 18 months of age.

## Where to find the form

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- The form will be located in all Health NZ Waitaha Canterbury birthing units and also on level 5 Maternity at CWH.
- It will be electronically available for LMC's from both MMPO and Expect Maternity systems.
- Health NZ Waitaha Canterbury NICU and Paediatric wards.
- Available on the Health NZ Waitaha Canterbury internet under hospital services maternity guidelines for the newborn.
- The newborn hearing screeners will also be able to provide them.

## Roles and responsibilities

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LMC's/Medical/Midwifery/Nursing staff are responsible for informing the UNHSEIP of babies with risk factors requiring hearing surveillance. This referral can be sent by:

- Electronic format emailed to: [NewbornHearing@cdhb.health.nz](mailto:NewbornHearing@cdhb.health.nz). MMPO and Expect Maternity will have this form available to LMC's.
- Placed in the in tray for newborn hearing screening at level 5 Maternity.
- Find it in the Health NZ Waitaha Canterbury internet under hospital services maternity guidelines for the newborn. Newborn Hearing screening risk factors for hearing surveillance.  
<http://www.cdhb.health.nz/Hospitals-Services/Health-Professionals/maternity-care-guidelines/Pages/default.aspx>
- The coordinator and screeners are responsible for confirming the receipt of the referral and actioning the referral.

- Should the referrer **not have confirmation** of receipt within one week please contact the programme.
- The coordinator and/or newborn hearing screeners are responsible for ensuring that any referral is acted upon in a timely fashion.
- **NICU babies:** all babies who have their hearing screening completed as an inpatient in the NICU will continue to have the risk factor form completed by the NICU nurses who are hearing screeners.

## Associated documents

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- National Screening Unit (July 2016), UNHSEIP National Policy and Quality Standards
- National Screening Unit (January 2016), UNHSEIP Diagnostic and Amplification protocols for audiology
- National Screening Unit (August 2015) UNSEIP risk factor referral form for hearing surveillance
- National Screening Unit (October 2015) UNHSEIP Screener Manual

## Referral process to the UNHSEIP

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- Emailing the UNHSEIP on the generic email with the attached NSU 'Risk factors for hearing loss requiring surveillance' form along with any required information for hearing screening.
- Leave the risk factor form in the screeners' tray on level 5 reception for babies born at CWH.
- Should the referrer not have confirmation of receipt within one week please contact the programme.

## Acknowledgment of referral

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- The coordinator or screeners will either email or call the referrer to confirm that the referral has been received.
- The coordinator/screener will then attach the risk factor form to the baby's screening data form and action referral to audiology for hearing surveillance.

## Measurement and evaluation

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All babies who require surveillance will be referred by the UNHSEIP to audiology. The coordinator is responsible for monitoring these referrals.