

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD
State Surgeon General

Vision: To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

December 15, 2022

Dear Hearing Screening Provider,

Beginning January 1, 2023, legislative changes as outlined in section 383.145, Florida Statutes will take effect. The Florida Newborn Hearing Screening, Early Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program is here to assist as facilities prepare for the potential increase in referrals for follow-up hearing testing and to understand the reporting requirement to submit results to the state.

Legislative Highlights:

- The hearing screen must be completed before hospital discharge. However, if the inpatient hearing screening is not completed, the screening must be completed within 21 days after birth.
- Following a failed hearing screen, each hospital, or other licensed birthing facility must screen for cCMV before discharge.
- For home births, the health care provider in attendance must provide a referral for a hearing screen within 7 days after birth.
- When a newborn is referred to a hearing screening provider and the newborn fails the screening, the newborn's primary health care provider (PCP) must refer the infant for a cCMV screen.
- Results of all hearing screenings, cCMV screenings, and any related diagnostic testing must be reported the EHDI Program within 7 days of receiving the results.

Implementation Recommendations:

- Prioritize scheduling newborns referred for an initial hearing screen.
- Develop a process to expedite reporting of failed newborn hearing screens to the PCP to ensure a referral for cCMV testing can be completed before 21 days of age.
- Ensure staff are registered and trained to report hearing screen and diagnostic test results to the state program within required time frames.

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The established process for reporting screening and diagnostic results is through eReports™. To set up a user account, visit <https://floridanewbornscreening.com/florida-newborn-screening-ehdi-ereports-registration/>. EHDI Program staff can be reached Monday – Friday, 8:00-5:00 EST by calling (850) 289-2037.

For technical assistance with entering hearing screening results, contact Margaret “Peggy” Waterman at (850) 408-0669 or by email to Margaret.Waterman@flhealth.gov. For technical assistance related to audiology and entering diagnostic hearing results, contact Teryl Camus, AuD, at (850) 404-4204 or by email to Teryl.Camus@flhealth.gov.

For specific questions related to legislative requirements for cCMV screening, please contact the EHDI Program Director, Kimberly Porter at Kimberly.Porter@flhealth.gov.

Sincerely,



Kimberly Porter
Director, EHDI Program
Florida Department of Health

Enclosure

Resources

Florida Newborn Screening cCMV Webpage

<https://floridanewbornscreening.com/conditions/hearing-2/congenital-cytomegalovirus-cmv/>

Florida EHDI 2022 cCMV Screening Guidelines

www.floridanewbornscreening.com/wp-content/uploads/CMV-Screening-Guidelines-FINAL.pdf

Florida Newborn Screening

<https://floridanewbornscreening.com/hearing/for-hearing-specialists-providers/>

Centers of Disease Control and Prevention

www.cdc.gov/cmvd/downloads/identifying-cmv.pdf

National CMV Foundation

www.nationalcmv.org/resources/for-healthcare-professionals