



Hearing Loss: Early Detection & Ongoing Monitoring

When children with hearing loss are identified early and receive appropriate intervention, their chances for success in school and beyond are greatly improved. More than 99% of all babies born in Connecticut have their hearing screened before they leave the hospital, and 2% then need an audiology assessment. The medical home is the best place to ensure linkage to audiology services following hospital screening. In addition, the pediatric medical home can be instrumental in identifying young children who lose hearing over the early years.

This EPIC module provides an overview of hearing loss in young children and the medical home's role in early identification, connection of children to evaluation and intervention services and ongoing monitoring of children with, and at risk for, hearing loss. The presentation covers AAP recommendations for screening in pediatric practice as well as billing to ensure reimbursement for screening and ongoing care.

The *Hearing Loss: Early Detection and Ongoing Monitoring* module is offered through the Education Practices in the Community (EPIC) Program. A professional trainer will visit your practice at a time that is convenient for you and provide a brief presentation to you and your entire staff on hearing loss in young children.

Presentation Objectives

- Discussion of why early detection of hearing loss is important for young children
- Understanding of the medical home's role in ensuring appropriate follow up of newborns who do not pass hospital hearing screening
- Knowledge of the medical home's role in early detection, linkage to services and ongoing monitoring for children with late onset or progressive hearing loss

EPIC provides:

- Tools to enhance early detection and monitoring
- Lunch or snack



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The Hearing Loss: Early Detection and Ongoing Monitoring module was developed by Sarah Schlegel, M.D. and Brenda Balch, M.D. in collaboration with the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Task Force for use in community practice as part of the EPIC initiative.

