JCIH 2007: Risk Indicators Associated With Permanent Congenital, Delayed-Onset or Progressive Hearing Loss in Childhood.

1 Caregiver concern* regarding hearing, speech, language, or developmental delay (Roizen, 1999).

2 Family history* of permanent childhood hearing loss (Cone-Wesson et al., 2000; Morton & Nance, 2006).

3 Neonatal intensive care of >5 days, or any of the following regardless of length of stay: ECMO,* assisted ventilation, exposure to ototoxic medications (gentamycin and tobramycin) or loop diuretics (furosemide/lasix), and hyperbilirubinemia requiring exchange transfusion (Fligor et al., 2005; Roizen, 2003).

4 In-utero infections, such as CMV,* herpes, rubella, syphilis, and toxoplasmosis (Fligor et al., 2005; Fowler et al., 1992; Madden et al., 2005; Nance et al., 2006; Pass et al., 2006; Rivera et al., 2002).

5 Craniofacial anomalies, including those involving the pinna, ear canal, ear tags, ear pits, and temporal bone anomalies (Cone-Wesson et al., 2000).

6 Physical findings, such as white forelock, associated with a syndrome known to include a sensorineural or permanent conductive hearing loss (Cone-Wesson et al., 2000).

7 Syndromes associated with hearing loss or progressive or late-onset hearing loss,* such as neurofibromatosis, osteopetrosis, and Usher syndrome (Roizen, 2003). Other frequently identified syndromes include Waardenburg, Alport, Pendred, and Jervell and Lange-Nielson (Nance, 2003).

8 Neurodegenerative disorders,* such as Hunter syndrome, or sensory motor neuropathies, such as Friedreich ataxia and Charcot-Marie-Tooth syndrome (Roizen, 2003).

9 Culture-positive postnatal infections associated with sensorineural hearing loss,* including confirmed bacterial and viral (especially herpes viruses and varicella) meningitis (Arditi et al., 1998; Bess, 1982; Biernath et al., 2006; Roizen, 2003).

10 Head trauma, especially basal skull/temporal bone fracture* requiring hospitalization (Lew et al., 2004; Vartialnen et al., 1985; Zimmerman et al., 1993).

11 Chemotherapy* (Bertolini et al., 2004).

* Risk indicators that are marked with an asterisk are of greater concern for delayed-onset hearing loss.