

OAE Screening Implementation Checklist

- 1. Decide on the specific protocol to be followed and whether it includes tympanometry or pneumatic otoscopy for children not passing an OAE screening (see Suggested Protocol and Documentation Form).

- 2. Determine how often children will be screened as a matter of standard protocol (see AAP Recommendations for Preventative Pediatric Health Care, <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/105/3/645/F1>). Objective OAE screening can now replace less reliable subjective screening procedures.

- 3. Decide how often children with risk factors and other concerns will be screened.

- 4. Develop a working relationship with at least one pediatric audiologist in your community who will understand your screening protocol, promptly evaluate children not passing the screening, and answer questions as they arise.

- 5. Get acquainted with your state's newborn hearing screening or Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Public Health Program (<http://infanthearing.org/status/cnhs.html>).

- 6. Select and purchase appropriate OAE equipment that has been demonstrated to work effectively for screening children birth to three years of age. Also purchase disposable probe tips.

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- 7. Identify who will perform the OAE screening (and tympanometry or pneumatic otoscopy), at what point during the visit this will occur, and where.

 - 8. Provide training for all individuals responsible for conducting screenings and overseeing follow up.

 - 9. Designate where the equipment will be stored and who will be responsible for equipment care, maintenance, ordering supplies, training new staff, etc.

 - 10. If multiple physicians and/or staff are sharing a single piece of equipment, plan how this will be coordinated.

 - 11. Decide how OAE results will be documented.

 - 12. When children do not pass screening and need a follow-up screening, establish a plan for how children will be tracked and flagged for rescreening.

 - 13. Determine what documentation of screening results, if any, will be provided to parents and who will explain the screening results.

 - 14. Determine what documentation of screening results will be provided to audiologists when children are referred from OAE screening for further audiological evaluation.