## NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING PROGRAMME GUIDELINES

1. **Risk factors that require immediate referral**
   - The following babies will be excluded from the routine hearing screen and should continue to be directly referred by the paediatricians to Paediatric Audiology
   - **Babies diagnosed or strongly suspected of** neonatal bacterial meningitis or meningococcal septicaemia or Cytomegalovirus
   - **Babies with microtia / external ear canal atresia**
   - **Babies with proven levels of ototoxic medication**
     - (only if this is after hearing screening is complete, if proven levels before screen then only TFU required – PLEASE do referral to audiology)
   - **Babies with programmable ventriculo-peritoneal shunts**
   - Or any professional concern re hearing requiring referral, please specify:

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2. **Risk Factors requiring targeted follow up hearing screen at 7-9mths of age.**
   - The following babies will be referred by the Newborn Hearing Screening team.
   - **Congenital Infection**
     - Toxoplasmosis, Rubella or CMV
   - **Craniofacial abnormalities** – including branchial arch and cervical spine anomalies, ear anomalies and cleft palate
     - (not pre-auricular skin tags with normal pinna, or cleft lip with a normal palate)
   - **Syndrome associated with a hearing loss**
   - **NICU babies with unclear AOAE’s but clear AABR**
   - **Gentamicin level >2mcg in well babies**
   - **NICU babies to be referred by medical staff receiving the blood result.**
     - PLEASE see above.

3. **Risk Factors no longer requiring targeted hearing screen at 7-9mths of age**
   - Family history of sensorineural hearing loss
   - Ventilation for >5days or ECMO
   - Jaundice (only babies with severe conjugated hyperbilirubinemia need referral for assessment)
   - Neuro-development or neurodegenerative disorder
   - Therapeutic whole body cooling (previously Birth Asphyxia HIE grade 2 or 3)

### Referral centre and details:

1. **Babies resident in Berkshire**
   - Paediatric Lead, Hearing & Balance Services, King Edward VII Hospital, St Leonards Rd, Windsor, SL4 3DP
   - BKS-tr.hearingandbalance@nhs.net

2. **Babies resident in Surrey**
   - Paediatric Lead, Audiology Dept, Royal Surrey, Egerton rd, Guildford, GU2 7XX by Post or NHS email to rsc-tr.Paedenquiries@nhs.net
   - If you have any concerns, please phone the Newborn Hearing screening office on 01483 783107 or Val Holdich on 07824451192

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