JULY/AUGUST 2022

Can you Hear Me Now?

Three hundred twenty-four babies born in 2020 were referred from newborn hearing screening for diagnostic audiology. Only 246 (76%) were reported as seeing an audiologist, and only 135 (55%) saw an audiologist by the recommended three months of age. Similarly, not all babies diagnosed with permanent hearing loss are reported as enrolled in early intervention, which is critical for healthy brain and language development. Reasons for lack of follow-up are listed below. The most common reason is that the family has been contacted and notified that the baby needs diagnostic audiology but has not yet been able to complete that diagnostic process. Running the KIDSNET Newborn Hearing Screening Follow-up report will help identify babies that need follow-up, including those that passed the newborn hearing screening but have risk factors (see below) for late-onset hearing loss. You may be able to encourage families to complete the diagnostic audiology process and assist them with any barriers they might be experiencing.

### Reasons for Loss to Follow-up/Documentation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Dx</th>
<th>El</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contacted but unresponsive</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refusal</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unable due to medical reasons</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unable to contact</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moved out of state</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In process</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deceased</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Risk Factors

- Family history of hearing loss: 42
- Left preaurical pit: 8
- Left preaurical pit; family history of hearing loss: 1
- Low birth weight; mechanical ventilation; NICU stay greater than 5 days: 10
- Low birth weight; NICU stay greater than 5 days: 16
- Mechanical ventilation; NICU stay greater than 5 days: 3
- NICU stay greater than 5 days: 80
- NICU stay greater than 5 days; family history of hearing loss: 2
- NICU stay greater than 5 days; syndrome associated with hearing loss: 1
- Right preaurical pit: 8
- Right preaurical pit; family history of hearing loss: 1
- Right preaurical pit; Left preaurical pit: 1
- Risk factors associated with hearing loss: 12
- Skin tag on left side of head: 9
- Skin tag on right side of head: 8
- Skin tag on right side of head; skin tag on left side of head: 1
Back to School
As children head back to school, many may still be in need of the necessary vaccines and or lead screenings to meet school entry requirements, health.ri.gov/requiredvaccines health.ri.gov/leadreferralprocess
The following KIDSNET reports can assist your practice or program to identify those patients:

- **Patient List:** Identifies all patients or those in selected age ranges and allows the removal of patients no longer in your practice.
- **Immunization Report:** Identifies all patients missing one or more vaccines. This report can be filtered by vaccine categories and age ranges. Primary care providers and community-based programs, such as Family Visiting, Early Intervention, and Head Start, that send enrollment data to KIDSNET can utilize this report. This report can be run for all children linked to the practice or program.
- **Lead Screening reports:**
  - Children With no Lead Screening, (enter age range, 12-36 months)
  - Children due for Second Lead Screening
  - Children with Lead Screening Results ≥ 3.5ug/dl
- **School Eligible Report:** Identifies children linked to the practice who will be eligible to enter kindergarten by a specific date (for primary care providers only)

Please submit any missing data to KIDSNET, as it is important to keep records as current as possible. If you or any member of your team would like more information on how to run any reports in KIDSNET, please contact your KIDSNET Provider Relations Representative.

Interjurisdictional Immunization Data Exchange
KIDSNET and RICAIR are excited to announce that as part of the CDC’s Immunization Gateway project (IZ Gateway) the immunization registry (IIS) has started to exchange immunization information across IIS partner jurisdictions. This allows for, and automates, sending immunization information to an IIS for its patients immunized outside of their jurisdiction. To date, as part of these ongoing efforts, Rhode Island’s exchange of data is occurring with Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York City, and New Jersey. Rhode Island will continue to look for opportunities to establish exchanges with additional IIS. Please see future KIDSNET Updates for the latest news on this development.

COVID-19 Vaccinations Reminders
Providers can run their COVID-19 report to view the status of all patients who appear on their Patient List. This report shows which patients completed their primary series, never had a dose, or are due now for their next/booster dose. If you are administering COVID-19 doses in your practice, please be sure to update your EHR system so KIDSNET/RICAIR receives those doses.

Patients looking for a copy of their COVID-19 vaccination record can be directed to https://portal.ri.gov/vaccination/s or they can download the 401Health Application onto their mobile device. The 401Health app provides Rhode Islanders with an easy way to track symptoms, find vaccine records with a convenient QR code (sometimes required for travel), and learn about COVID-19 testing, treatment, and vaccination. To ensure privacy and security, patients will need to complete a verification process in order to view, print, or use their vaccination records. For more information, please visit https://covid.ri.gov/.