



NICU AND PIP

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EHDI IN THE NICU

- EHDI Guidelines
 - 1: Screen
 - 3: Diagnostic Testing
 - 6: Enrolled in Early Intervention
- Implemented new guidelines for screening in our NICU. We defined “Medically stable”. As a result we are screening and diagnosing hearing loss than earlier than we have in the past.
- As a result, we have babies with a diagnosed hearing loss who may stay in our NICU for a longer period of time after diagnosis.

DIAGNOSING HEARING LOSS IN THE NICU

- The next step we wanted to work on was enrollment in Early Intervention.
- We know that we are doing a good job in our state of meeting our 1-3 guidelines but the 6 is not as successful.
- This seemed like the next logical step to work on.

WHEN A BABY GETS DIAGNOSED WITH A HEARING LOSS

- Previously we had two choices.
 1. Email PIP at time of diagnosis. They would contact family but often family would be overwhelmed and deny services.
 2. Audiologist would forget to alert PIP about the baby upon discharge.

PIP IN THE NICU

- Contacted Stephanie Morgan to ask for help.
- Reached out to former NICU parents of kids who are deaf or hard of hearing to ask for input.
- Spoke with our NICU staff asking what would be helpful for them.

WHEN A BABY GETS DIAGNOSED WITH A HEARING LOSS

- Now when we diagnosis a baby we email referral to PIP once testing is completed.
 - Let them know about diagnosis and NICU stay
 - PIP assigns an advisor and emails me back the advisor
- I become the liaison between parents and PIP advisor.
- This way we have two people monitoring the baby.
- If PIP advisor hasn't heard from me in a while, they check in.

IN THE NICU...

- We provide personalized recommendations that are unique to each patient.
- Can include handouts of basic signs if appropriate.
- These recommendations are not only for family but for anyone who may interact with the baby i.e. neonatologists, nurses, nurse practitioners, occupational therapists, speech therapists, aides, cuddlers, any other specialists who may interact with baby.

Audiology Recommendations



My name is [REDACTED].

I have hearing loss.



- Please approach my bed slowly and gently. If I am awake, let me see you before you approach and touch me. If I am sleeping, please touch me gently on my legs then work your way up to my head and face where I am most sensitive. You can also tap on the crib to let me know you are there.
- Please give me lots of positive touch and hold me as much as possible. This gives me good sensory input.
- When you hold me or talk to me, please sit or stand near an overhead light so that your face is illuminated. This helps me focus on your face.
- Holding me when you talk and sing to me lets me feel the vibration from your voice while I listen.
- Please always call me by name. This will help me learn my name since I don't hear you clearly.
- Please give me time to use my vision to know what is coming next. Give me a visual cue for activities whenever you can. For example, before my diaper change, hold my diaper where I can see it and then let me feel it in my hand.
- Please try to keep my daily routine as consistent as possible. This will help me learn to anticipate what is happening next.
- Please say and sign I love you to me so I can continue learning language.



Any questions?



HEALTH
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Contact Adrienne Johnson AuD 801-585-3494

Message



Reading



How can I
BOND &
COMMUNICATE
with my child?

Sign Language



Singing



WHEN A BABY GETS DISCHARGED

- Alert PIP advisor that family is being discharged so they can reach out to family.
- Let family know that PIP advisor will reach out to them.
 - Often times, NICU families may be overwhelmed with the amount of follow-up necessary. Knowing who is going to call and when can be helpful for parents to know what to expect.

WHEN A BABY GETS DISCHARGED

- Feedback
 - Empowered families with concrete things to do with baby while still in NICU.
 - Family has heard the PIP advisor's name and is familiar with the services they provide.
 - Appreciates the expertise that PIP has to offer because they have seen and used the handout and employed the recommendations.

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