

# Ear, Nose & Throat Specialties, P.C.

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## Auditory Brainstem Response Pre-Test Information

Your child has been scheduled for Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) testing. The reason for this test is likely the result of a failed Universal Newborn Hearing Screening that was completed in the hospital shortly after birth. This test measures brain activity in response to sounds. Electrode stickers will be placed on the forehead and behind the ears and the child will be wearing in-the-ear headphones. The test time can vary, but we have reserved 2 hours of clinic time for testing and the patient will typically see one of our Ear, Nose, and Throat Physicians following the test (same day). The test is very sensitive to movement or sounds in the environment, so it is critical that the child sleeps during the test.

**Please read through and complete the pre-test checklist prior to the appointment on:**

- Sleep deprive your child. Keep them up later than normal the night before the test and wake him earlier than he is used to the day of the test.
- Withhold a feeding prior to the appointment so that your child can be fed immediately prior to the test. You may nurse or bottle feed in our exam room immediately following test preparation.
- Bring a change of clothing and fresh diapers in case either are needed during the exam.
- Avoid bringing other children with you to the test unless accompanied by another adult who can watch them in the waiting room. The only child that will be allowed into the testing area is the patient.
- Try your best to keep the child awake on your way to the appointment.
- Plan on activities that stimulate bedtime once you arrive for the test. For example:
  - Bring your child in pajamas or other comfortable clothing.
  - Bring a bottle. The test can be done while breastfeeding, however, please be aware that the examiner must be present in the same room and be able to have a visual view of the child during the entire test.
  - Bring your child's favorite blanket to encourage them to sleep.
  - Bring a pacifier if your child typically uses one.
- Cell phones will need to be turned off during the examination.

Please notify the Audiology department at **(402) 488-5079** should you have any questions or concerns.