Public Health England

Newborn Hearing Screening Programme screening pathway v.1.1

Well baby protocol

1. Newborn hearing screening well baby protocol
2. Identify eligible population
3. Provide information and offer screening test
4. Provide checklist and inform GP/HV
5. Consent declined or consent given
6. Automated otoacoustic emission (AOAE) screening test
   - AOAE no clear response in one or both ears
     - Automated auditory brainstem response (AABR) screening test
       - AABR no clear response or inconclusive result in one or both ears
         - Refer for early audiological assessment within 4 weeks of screening completion or 44 weeks gestational age
       - AABR clear response in both ears
         - Consider other risk factors requiring surveillance
   - AOAE clear response in both ears
     - If risks are present, refer for audiological assessment at 7 to 9 months of age
     - If risks are absent, discharge
9. Baby has atresia or bacterial meningitis
10. Refer for early audiological assessment within 4 weeks of screening completion or 44 weeks gestational age

Public Health England leads the NHS Screening Programmes