

## Mayo Clinic Minute

### Importance of screening your newborn's hearing

Video	Audio
	This baby is just 1 day old, but she is already getting a hearing test.
<b>Joscelyn Martin, Au.D.</b> <b>Audiology</b> <b>Mayo Clinic</b>	"Earlier identification of hearing loss leads to better outcomes for children, better speech and language outcomes, better educational, and better social, emotional outcomes."
	Dr. Joscelyn Martin says approximately 4 out of every 1,000 babies born in the U.S. have some degree of hearing loss. Two noninvasive and painless screening tests can help identify them.
	"They are called otoacoustic emissions and automated auditory brainstem response."
	With the first test, the baby listens to clicking sounds. And if the inner ear works, it sends a sound out that the technology can measure.
	"The second test, the automated auditory brainstem response, or AABR, is similar."
	But this time, small stickers help measure waveforms.
	"The baby does not have to jump or startle, or raise their hand to say, 'I heard it.'"
	If hearing loss is found, parents can decide about interventions, such as hearing aids, cochlear implants or sign language.
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Joel Streed.