

Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Makes a Difference

Improving Vocabulary Outcomes in Children with Hearing Loss

A 2017 study* funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that:



Meeting all of the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) 1-3-6 guidelines for children with hearing loss significantly increased children's vocabulary outcomes



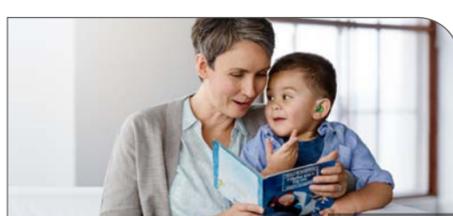
System improvements that increase the number of children who meet the EHDI 1-3-6 guidelines have been shown to enhance vocabulary learning



Current efforts to identify hearing loss and enroll children in early intervention at younger ages provide the best opportunity for the best vocabulary outcomes

What else did the study show?

- ✓ Children with hearing loss who didn't meet all of the EHDI 1-3-6 guidelines often had poorer vocabulary outcomes than their peers
- ✓ All children who met the 1-3-6 guidelines had better vocabulary outcomes, including children who had additional disabilities or mothers with lower levels of education
- ✓ There was no significant relationship between vocabulary outcomes and sex of the child or language of the home (English or Spanish)
- ✓ Meeting all EHDI 1-3-6 benchmarks helped all children, regardless of their level of hearing loss or other determining factors



The study included 448 children:

- * With bilateral hearing loss
- * Ages 8 to 39 months
- * Living across 12 states

What are the EHDI 1-3-6 guidelines?

The EHDI 1-3-6 guidelines are key benchmarks that help identify children with hearing loss and ensure they start receiving intervention early.



Hearing screening by
1 month

Diagnosis of hearing loss by
3 months

Enrollment in intervention by
6 months

Successfully implementing the EHDI guidelines requires a team approach to ensure timely transitions from screening to diagnosis to intervention. The team should including the following:



- * Pediatricians
- * Newborn screening personnel
- * Audiologists
- * Early interventionists
- * State-based EHDI surveillance programs
- * Parents and caregivers

What can health care providers do?



Make sure you understand the reporting requirements in your state: <http://bit.ly/reportingReqs>



Encourage and help parents to make sure their child meets the EHDI 1-3-6 guidelines



Routinely check to ensure your patients are meeting the EHDI 1-3-6 guidelines



Help parents understand the negative impact of late identification of hearing loss and the life-long benefits for their child in meeting the EHDI 1-3-6 guidelines

Where can I learn more?

Visit the American Academy of Pediatrics Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program web page for more information and helpful resources: <https://www.aap.org/ehdi>

What can we learn from additional research?

Future studies can look at related variables such as the following:

- * Family involvement
- * Parent-child interaction
- * Compliance with amplification use
- * Intensity of intervention services
- * Characteristics of early intervention providers and programs

*Reference: Yoshinaga-Itano C, Sedey AL, Wiggin M, et al. Early Hearing Detection and Vocabulary of Children with Hearing Loss. Pediatrics. 2017;140(2):e20162964