

CALIFORNIA NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING PROGRAM PROCESS

Birth

When a baby is born in California, they are either screened or missed for the Hearing Screening. If the newborn is screened and passes the screening, their path in the California Newborn Hearing Screening Program (NHSP) ends. If the infant fails the screening twice at the hospital, they are referred to an Outpatient Provider (OP) for a screening. The hospital the infant is born at is responsible for scheduling the screening with OP.

When a baby is missed for the NHSP screening, the hospital notifies the Primary Care Physician (PCP). The hospital also contacts the family and schedules a screening appointment with an OP.

By One Month of Age

The OP screen/re-screen occurs by one month of age. If the infant passes, the OP and the Communication Disorder Center (CDC) sends the results to the PCP and the Hearing Coordination Center (HCC). For an infant who passes the OP screen, this is where their path in the NHSP ends. If the infant does not pass the OP screen:

- » They are referred to diagnostic evaluation.
- » The OP sends family application, results, and request for diagnostic evaluation authorization to the local California Children's Services Program (CSS) and follows up with the CDC.
- » CCS reviews residential eligibility and screening results, authorizes diagnostic evaluation to a Type C CDC and Otolaryngologist (ENT).
- » The PCP refers newborn to Health Maintenance Organization (HMO)/Insurance for diagnostic evaluation.
- » The CDC and OP send results to the PCP and the HCC.

By Three Months of Age

CDC completes audiologic evaluation. If the newborn passes the evaluation, the CDC sends the results to the PCP and the HCC. For an infant who passes the evaluation, this is where their path in the NHSP ends. If hearing loss is confirmed by the evaluation, the CDC:

- » Sends results to CCS. CCS then determines program eligibility.
 - If the newborn is not eligible, CCS refers the family to the HCC for advocacy services (education/medical).
 - If the newborn is eligible, CCS authorizes audiologist and ENT services. When the newborn receives the authorized audiologist and ENT services, their path in the NHSP ends.
- » Sends results to the PCP and the HMO/insurance
 - ENT/PCP requests approval for aud/ENT services from the HMO/insurance. When the newborn receives the authorized audiologist and ENT services, their path in the NHSP ends.
- » Notifies the Early Start Program
- » Sends results to HCC

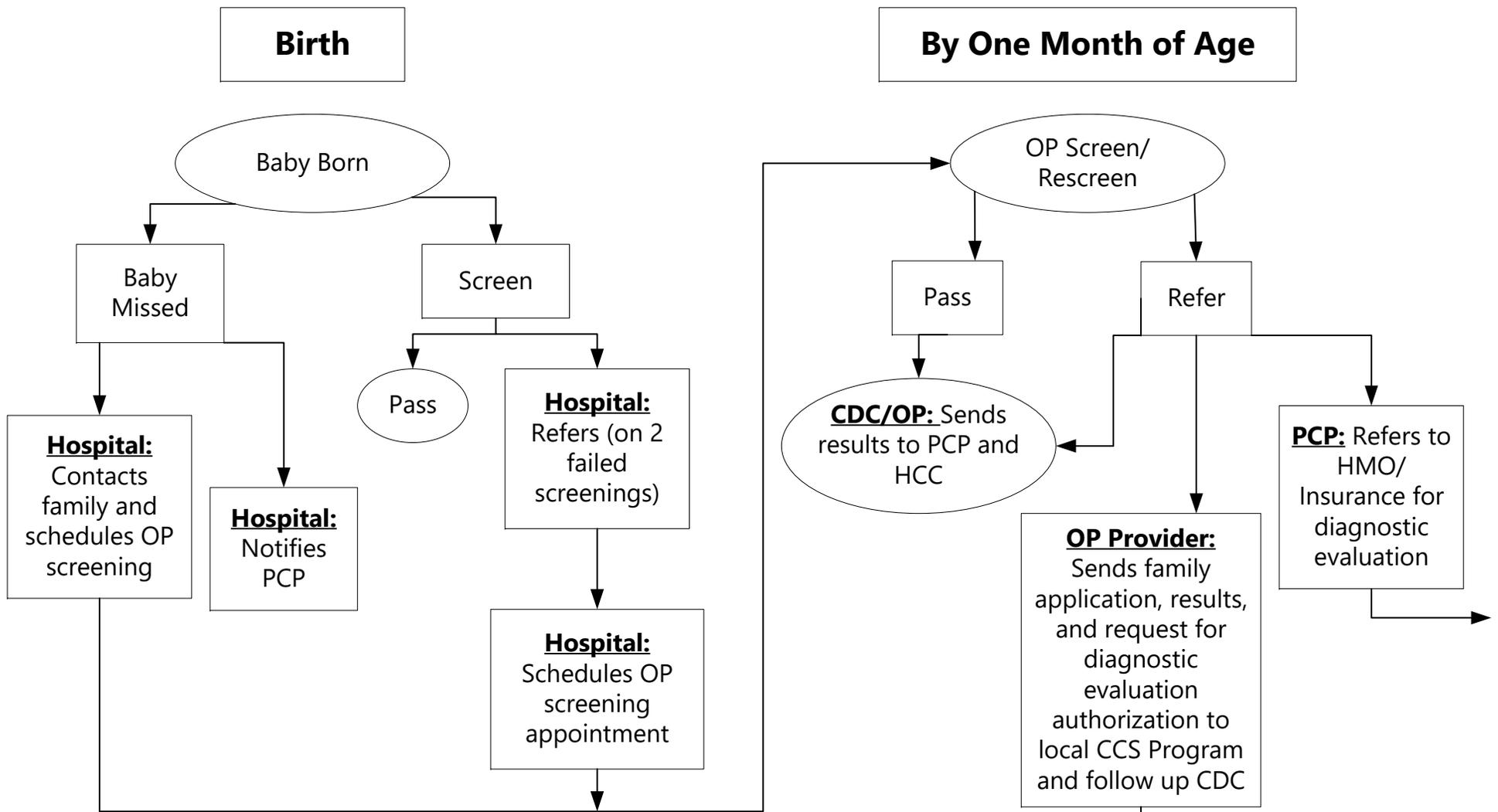
By Six Months of Age

Regardless of infant CCS eligibility or insurance status, the HCC:

- » Assures the infant's family has information about community resources and options
- » Refers and links the family with Early Start Program, Support Groups, and/or Advocacy Groups
- » Notifies the PCP
- » Assures the child is linked with audiology services

When the infant receives services from community resources and Early Intervention, their path in the NHSP ends.

California Newborn Hearing Screening Program Flowchart



Acronyms used::

Aud - Audiologist
 CCS - California Children's Services
 CDC - Communication Disorder Center
 ENT - Otolaryngologist

HCC - Hearing Coordination Center
 HMO - Health Maintenance Organization
 NICU - Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
 OP - Outpatient Provider
 PCP - Primary Care Physician



California Newborn Hearing Screening Program Flowchart

