

THE IMPACT & IMPORTANCE OF HEARING SCREENINGS



HEARING LOSS CAN HAPPEN AT ANY AGE

Newborn hearing screening will not identify all hearing losses. Genetic causes, birth complications, chronic ear infections, noise exposure, infectious diseases and use of particular drugs can all result in hearing loss. Screening beyond the newborn period is critical to identify children with hearing needs.

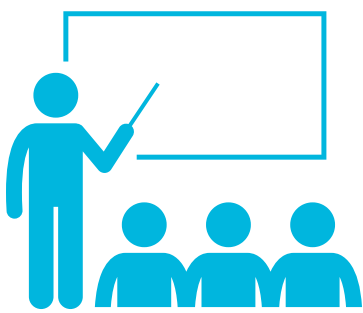
HEARING SCREENINGS ARE CRUCIAL TO MINIMIZE THE IMPACT OF HEARING LOSS ON A CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS.

Early identification will impact a child's ability to develop language, communication and social skills. Unidentified hearing loss can cause increased rate of grade failure and greater need for educational assistance. Behaviors such as low attention, lack of motivation, poor attention in class, and reduced class participation may be a result of unidentified or poorly managed hearing loss.



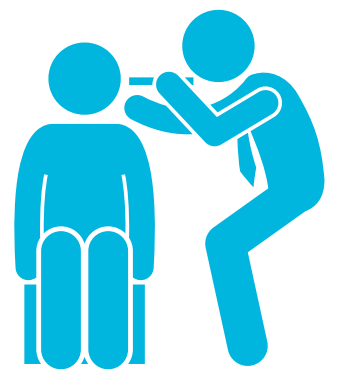
OVER HALF OF INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITY IN THE CLASSROOM INVOLVES LISTENING.

(ANSI S12.60-2002). Classroom teachers rely on screening information to ensure that children hear adequately to access instruction and progress academically. The ability to hear provides the foundations for development of spoken language, literacy and acquisition of phonemic skills.



INVOLVEMENT OF AN AUDIOLOGIST IS CRITICAL.

In order to provide an efficient, cost effective and successful screening program an audiologist should be involved in training and management. An audiologist has the unique knowledge needed to ensure a screening process will correctly identify all children with auditory disorders and provide appropriate referral, intervention, and management oversight.



UNADDRESSED HEARING LOSS IS EXPENSIVE.

Due to the potential for academic underperformance and subsequent lost wages as adults, unaddressed hearing loss costs an average of \$750 billion annually. Ensuring that there are interventions to prevent, identify and address hearing loss is both cost-effective and beneficial to the population.

