



Audiology Terms

Basic Audiology Terms for Parents

Hearing Tests & Measurements

- **Audiogram:** A graph showing hearing ability at different pitches and volumes.
- **Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR):** A test measuring how the hearing nerve and brain respond to sounds.
- **Hearing Screening:** A quick test, such as the *Newborn Hearing Screening* to detect potential hearing problems.
- **Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE):** A test to check if the inner ear (cochlea) is responding properly to sound.
- **Tympanometry:** A test checking the function of the middle ear, used to detect fluid or pressure issues.

Hearing Loss Types

- **Conductive Hearing Loss:** Hearing loss caused by issues in the outer or middle ear.
- **Mixed Hearing Loss:** A combination of conductive and sensorineural hearing loss.
- **Sensorineural Hearing Loss:** Hearing loss caused by problems in the inner ear or auditory nerve, often permanent.

Medical Professionals

- **Audiologist:** A healthcare professional who specializes in hearing and balance issues.
- **ENT (Ear, Nose, and Throat):** Doctors who treat medical issues of the ear, nose, or throat.

Hearing Aids & Assistive Devices

- **Cochlear Implant:** A medical device designed to provide a sense of sound to individuals who are severely hard of hearing or profoundly deaf
- **Hearing Aids/Assistive Devices:** Tools that help children hear better, including amplifiers and technology for noisy environments.

Support Services & Resources

- **Child & Family Connections (CFC):** Regional intake agency for Illinois Early Intervention services for children birth to 3.
- **Division of Specialized Care for Children (DSCC):** A program in Illinois that supports families with children who have special healthcare needs, including hearing loss.
- **Early Intervention (EI):** Services for children birth to 3 to help meet developmental milestones.
- **Illinois Hands & Voices (ILHV):** An organization providing unbiased support to families with children who are D/HH.
- **GBYS (Guide By Your Side):** A program through ILHV offering trained parent support for families of children who are D/HH.

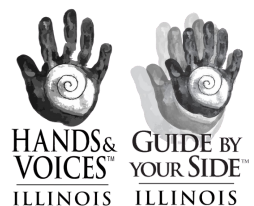
Sound Measurement & Characteristics

- **Decibels (dB):** The unit of measurement for sound loudness.
- **Frequency (Hz):** The pitch of a sound, determining how high or low it is.

If you have any concerns about your child's development, consider reaching out to your pediatrician, audiologist, early intervention specialist, or a developmental pediatrician for support and guidance.



Illinois Early Hearing
Detection & Intervention
Program



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