



Updated: February 2008

## EHDI State and Territorial Profiles Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

This profile includes information about a state or territorial EHDI program related to general program information, hearing screening, re-screening and diagnostic evaluations, early intervention, and the EHDI data system.

*If any information in this profile is incorrect or needs to be updated please email: [ehdi@cdc.gov](mailto:ehdi@cdc.gov)*

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Category and Questions	Information
<b>General Program Information</b>	
Official name of the state/territory Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) program	CNMI EHDI Program
Contact for the state/territory EHDI program.	Angie Mister, Au.D EHDI Coordinator Division of Public Health P.O. Box 500409 CK Saipan, MP Phone: 670-236-8714 Fax: 670-236-8700 e-mail: <a href="mailto:angie.mister@gmail.com">angie.mister@gmail.com</a>
Legislation regarding newborn hearing screening?  If yes, does the legislation mandate or provide funds for newborn hearing screening and follow-up services?	No
State/territory website related to infant/child hearing loss?	No
State/territory CDC/EHDI Cooperative Agreement related to hearing screening?	Yes

State/territory have a Maternal and Child Health Bureau Grant related to hearing screening?	Yes
Participate in a CDC funded research project?	No
<b>Hearing Screening Information</b>	
State/territory written guidelines and/or protocols for performing hearing screenings?	Yes
Primarily responsible in most hospitals for conducting in-hospital hearing screenings?	Nurses using AABR
Estimated percentage of newborns that are initially screened with OAE or AABR.  (Of the newborns that failed the initial screen, estimated percentage that are re-screened in the hospital with OAE or AABR.)	NICU Screening: OAE ___%; AABR 100 %  WBN Screening: OAE ___%; AABR 100 %  NICU Re-screening: OAE ___%; AABR 100%  WBN Re-screening: OAE ___%; AABR 100%
State/territory require parental consent for hearing screening(s) to be done at the time of birth?	No
What happens if a baby does not pass the initial hearing screening(s)?	Re-screens for Saipan infants are done at the Commonwealth Health Center (hospital) by the Children with Special Health Care nurse, using OAE. They will changing this protocol to re-screen all NICU infants with AABR. There are plans to have nurses at the satellite Wellness Centers to conduct some re-screens. Hearing screening is also routinely administered for all Head Start Children. Most babies from Rota and Tinian are screened on Saipan. Re-screens are completed on monthly visits by the audiologist using OAE.
Birthing hospitals/facilities/providers required to report hearing screening results to the state?	Yes
How birthing hospitals/facilities report hearing screening information to the state/territory	100% of individual-level screening results are receive by electronic upload. Screening results are recorded in the infant's medical record. The physicians have suggested that results also be put on the "yellow card" which is given to all parents for immunization purposes.
Hearing screening results reported to the infant's physician?  [If yes, are all results reported or only failed screening?]	Results are recorded in the medical chart and reviewed by the physician before discharged. Specific results are not otherwise reported to the infant's physician.
<b>Rescreening and Diagnostic</b>	

<b>Evaluations</b>	
State/territory written guidelines and/or protocols for performing hearing re-screenings?	Yes.
State's program guidelines for helping families with third party preauthorization of re-screening or diagnostic evaluations?	No
State/territory written guidelines and/or protocols for performing diagnostic evaluations?	Yes. One audiologist does all diagnostics. Babies from Rota and Tinian come back to Saipan for diagnostics. At this time, diagnostic evaluations are free to families.
State/territory EHDI program list of audiologic diagnostic centers and audiologists skilled in providing pediatric services to infants?	Yes
Number of pediatric audiologists and/or diagnostic centers on the list	1
Who is responsible for scheduling appointments for outpatient hearing re-screenings?	Nursery nurses provide parents an appointment before leaving the hospital and other appointments are scheduled by the EHDI Data Tracker
Who is responsible for scheduling appointments for diagnostic audiologic evaluations?	EHDI Data Tracker and / or Audiologist
How audiologists report diagnostic audiological evaluation results to the state/territory	Audiological evaluation results are report on paper form.
Guidelines and/or protocols for audiologists to report diagnostic audiological evaluation results to the state/territory?	CNMI mandates that audiological evaluations be reported to the EHDI program. The audiologist provides the results to the EHDI Data Tracker and results are entered into the Access database.  CNMI seeks to obtain audiological evaluation data for those children who did not pass their hearing screening.
One or more persons on the EHDI staff who are responsible for the follow-up of families who need to return for re-screen, diagnostics, or referral to intervention?	Yes
<b>Early Intervention</b>	
Lead agency for the Part C Early Intervention Program	Education: The Public School System (PSS) is the lead agency for Part C, but the EI program is a partnership with Public Health.  Suzanne Lizama, Coordinator <a href="mailto:lizamas@pss.cnmi.mp">lizamas@pss.cnmi.mp</a>  Referral from audiology are made to Children's Developmental Assistance Center (CDAC) who coordinates social and intervention services including Part C.

State/territory written guidelines, and/or protocols for providing intervention services for children with hearing loss?	No
Eligibility criteria for Part C services for infants and toddlers with hearing loss	All infants and children with hearing loss are eligible for EI services.
Eligibility criteria for Part B services for preschool children with hearing loss	Children must have developmental delay to be eligible.
Children with mild or unilateral hearing loss eligible for services under Part C or Part B?	Yes – Part C, but when children transition to Part B, some could lose services.
Other public or private programs(s) and services (other than Part C or Part B) that provide intervention services to children with hearing loss	None
Services such as family support, transportation to follow-up appointments, parent to parent available to families with children with hearing loss? List.	Yes Transportation to appointments New families can be connected to other families thru the EI intervention program, CNMI also organizes Family Support events
Program receives information regarding whether or not a referred child is receiving Part C services or other intervention services?	Yes – individual-level data from Part C. Part C is the only EI provider.
Intervention programs report other information about children, such as type of intervention, developmental test scores, use of assistive devices?	Yes – individual-level data from Part C. Part C is the only EI provider.
<b>EHDI Data System</b>	
State/territory written guidelines and/or protocols related to the EHDI tracking system?	No
Type of system program uses to track hearing screening and follow-up information. .	CNMI has a “Home grown” system developed by outside vendor. The new system was developed by Craig Mason and Quansheng Song from the University of Maine. Data are entered into an Access database and stored in an SQL server.  The program does obtain birth certificate data for all occurrent births.  Individual-level data is received for all infants screened.
State EHDI tracking system includes data items to identify infants and children with risk factors for hearing loss?	Yes

<p>Unique identifier is used to identify infants/children in the state/territory EHDI tracking system</p>	<p>An EHDI number is generated.</p>
<p>How program addresses de-duplication of screening and diagnostic evaluation data</p>	<p>The program address de-duplication of screening and diagnostic data during data entry, staff searches for possible matches.</p> <p>If it is determined that two records belong to the same individual, it is possible to combine these two records under the same ID number without re-entering all of the data for one of the records.</p> <p>If two records have been combined into a single record, but then it is determined that this was an error, it is possible to “undo” this and re-create the original, separate records under different ID numbers without re-entering the data.</p>
<p>EHDI system linked to or integrated with any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Blood spot card</li> <li>-EBC</li> <li>-Audiology</li> <li>-Early Intervention</li> <li>-Immunizations</li> <li>-Other</li> </ul>	<p>CNMI has an integrated EHDI data system (i.e., the EHDI program has a separate data system from other state programs, but contains all screening, diagnostic, service data in one system). The EHDI data system may obtain uploads from other systems.</p> <p>The WIC and Immunization have new data systems and the EHDI program is working with them to link and flag infants that need follow-up.</p> <p>Efforts are coordinated with vital statistics, so when vital statistics changes data items they will keep in sync.</p> <p>CNMI is in the process of linking with Early Intervention</p>
<p><b>Other EHDI Questions</b></p>	
<p>State materials/ brochures/ protocols for parents and professionals about the EHDI program. (Link to matrix).</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Agencies, foundations, organizations, or other programs that provide funding for the purchase of any of the assistive devices for children with hearing loss</p>	<p>Part C and B cover the cost of hearing aids, other assistive devices and equipment repair.</p>
<p>Statewide hearing aid loaner program for infants, toddlers, and children with hearing loss?</p>	<p>CNMI has a loaner hearing aid program, funded by MCHB funds.</p>
<p>Resources, other than those from the state or territory, available to help families with the costs of caring for an infant, toddler, or child with a hearing loss?</p>	<p>No</p>