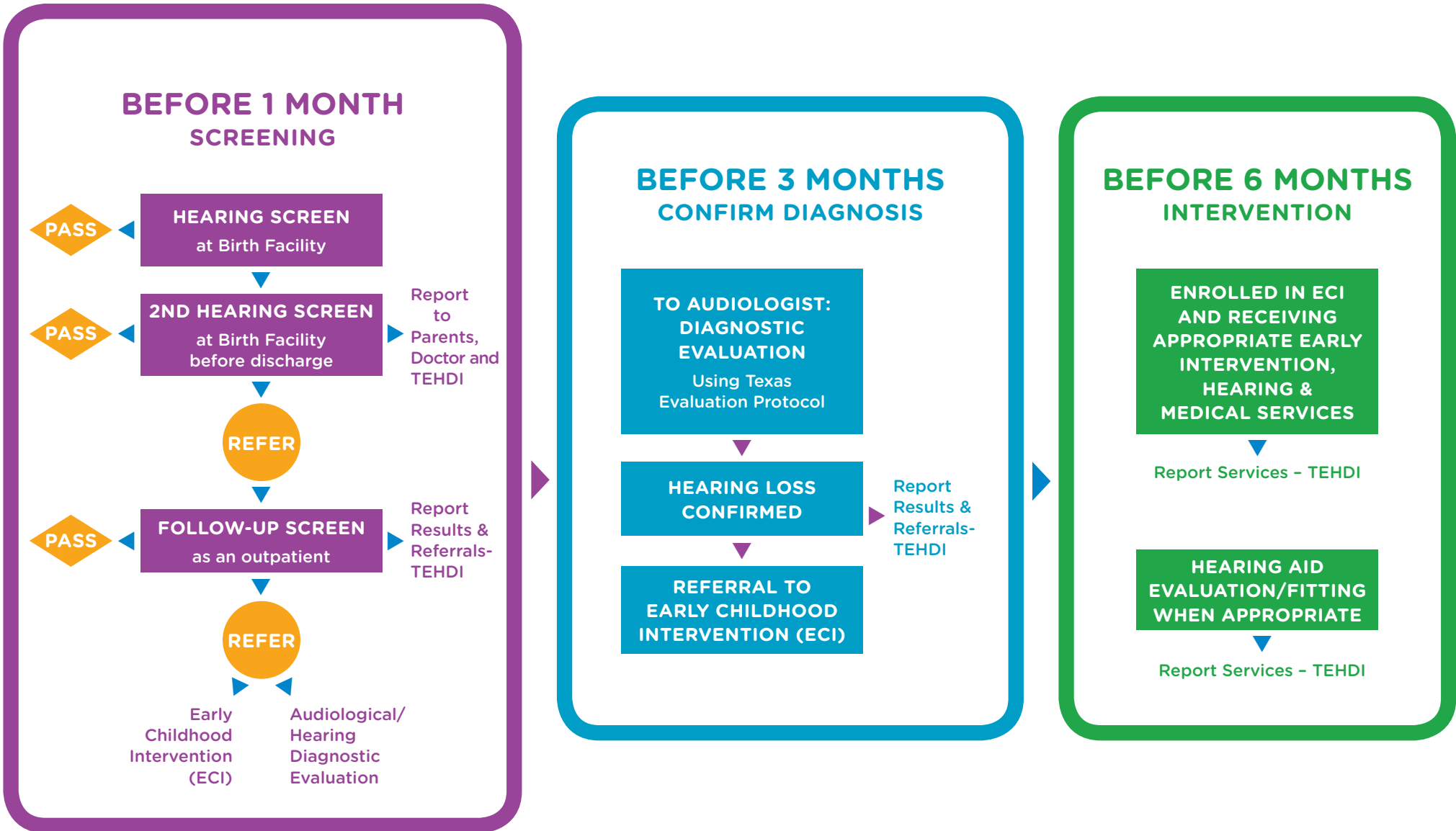


1-3-6 MONTH PRACTITIONER'S GUIDE

TEXAS EARLY HEARING DETECTION AND INTERVENTION (TEHDI) PROCESS



TEXAS EARLY HEARING DETECTION AND INTERVENTION (TEHDI)

1. Birth Screen

- Parental permission is required.
- Test is either Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) or Transient or Distortion Product Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE).
- A second screen is done before discharge if the first is not passed.
- Written results are given to the parents and the baby's doctor.
- Results are reported to DSHS but identifying information is removed for infants who pass; parental permission is given for identified results to be reported.
- Referral to a local audiology/hearing resource is made for outpatient re-screen when an infant does not pass the second screen.

2. Outpatient Re-Screen

- ABR or OAE tests are used.
- If the infant does not pass, referrals are made to an audiologist for diagnostic hearing testing and to DARS/Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) by calling 1-800-628-5115*.
- Hearing services are available for children who are eligible through the Texas Medicaid and Children with Special Healthcare Needs (CSHCN) programs.

3. Audiologic Evaluation

- Diagnostic ABR and, to verify cochlear involvement, OAE if not previously done.
- The Texas Pediatric Protocol for Evaluation is used; see www.dshs.state.tx.us/tehdi/assumpt.shtm.
- Results are reported to the referral source and to TEHDI.
- Referral is made to ECI upon the diagnosis of hearing loss.
- Referral to an otologist for a medical examination of the ear.
- Fitting of hearing aids by an audiologist when appropriate.
- Ongoing audiological assessment and monitoring as needed.

4. Referral to ECI

- Must be as soon as possible, but no longer than 7 days after diagnosis of hearing loss.
- Service coordination is provided by ECI.
- Parents may refuse ECI services.
- An Individual Family Services Plan (IFSP) will be developed by ECI within 45 days of referral.
- ECI and the Local Education Agency (LEA) have shared service responsibility for children with hearing loss birth to

three. The LEA provides a certified teacher to work with families as outlined in the IFSP. ECI services are no cost to parents.

- ECI services are available until the child's third birthday, and then transition to the LEA is coordinated.

5. Deaf Education and other special education services are available from ages 3 – 21 when determined by the Individual Education Plan (IEP).

6. For children who pass the newborn hearing screen, the Medical Home/physician continues to monitor for developing hearing loss; see <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/120/4/898> for suggested monitoring protocols.

Additional Resources:

TEA - www.tea.state.tx.us

UT Callier Center - www.callier.utdallas.edu/txc.html

For more information about TEHDI call **800-252-8023 ext 7726*** or **512-458-7726*** or visit our website at www.dshs.state.tx.us/TEHDI/

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* use relay service of your choice to call, if needed

