



Hearing Impaired Database

Guidance for
Audiologists &
Professional Leads

The NBHSW database is a record of babies with a bilateral permanent hearing loss >40dB HL born April 2009 to current date and a historical record for children born from 2003 to March 2009.

Babies and children < 5 years identified with significant hearing loss (bilateral permanent >40dB HL) by pathways 'outside' of NBHSW screening are also recorded e.g. movement in; post meningitis, progressive hearing loss etc.

The clinical information on the NBHSW database informs:

- preparation of an annual report for NBHSW specifically to inform the reported rates of annual incidence of bilateral permanent hearing loss >40dB HL in the screened population and prevalence of reported bilateral permanent >40dB HL hearing loss in Wales since the introduction of screening.
- analysis of information in relation to age of hearing aid fitting in the screened population per annum, and babies and children identified by pathways 'outside' of screening
- the identification of children for participation in language-outcome measures
- clinical audit of the aetiological investigations of sensorineural hearing loss
- service evaluation of assessment and management of babies with Auditory Neuropathy Spectrum Disorder
- clinical audit of care pathway management of babies with permanent >40dB HL hearing loss

- Quality Assurance of sites undertaking neonatal hearing assessment

Data entry:

This is completed by the Divisional Coordinators and categorised by assessment site and Health Board. The following data fields are completed.

Data field
NHS Number
Surname
Initials/First Name
Date of Birth
Place of Residence
Date of Decision to Aid
Date decided hearing aid not appropriate
Who decided not to aid
Date changed mind to aid
Date hearing aid fitted
Age when hearing aid fitted (weeks)
Comment about hearing aid fitted
Date of cochlear implant
Type of hearing loss (LEFT ear): Audiological Confirmation
Type of hearing loss (RIGHT ear): Audiological Confirmation
Type of hearing loss (LEFT ear): Audiological Certainty
Type of hearing loss (RIGHT ear): Audiological Certainty
Gestational Age
Significant Factor
Second Significant Factor
Presumed diagnosis
Confirmed diagnosis
Further information and other (please specify)

The significant factors relate to 'risk' factors for hearing loss and include family history, SCBU graduate, craniofacial abnormality, congenital infection, meningitis.

Hearing loss at audiological confirmation and certainty is recorded as the averaged thresholds for each ear (where possible).

The initial data is routinely collated following receipt of RESULTS RECORD SHEETS and summary letters.

Role of the audiologist and professional lead:

Currently initial information about babies with a significant hearing loss is collated by Divisional Coordinators from AWINBHS database, Results Record sheets and copy letters following assessment.

The following information can only be collated by ongoing information sharing between local assessment sites and Paediatric Audiology services and NBHSW.

- The date of hearing aid fitting
- date of any change of mind with regard to hearing aid fitting data related to audiological certainty obtained from behavioural testing and
- outcome of aetiological investigation or Implant referral

This information is usually obtained by

- The NBHSW follow up proforma and information sharing at Divisional Management Group meetings
- Copy correspondence on individual children

- NBHSW Divisional Coordinators requesting information updates on individual children

This data is critical in the ongoing evaluation and quality assurance of the NBHSW programme.

Actions:

In order to facilitate and stream line data sharing the following actions are proposed:

- each assessment site maintains their own database related to babies referred to assessment
- NBHSW follow up proforma should be used for recording and sharing data on children with >40dBHL permanent sensorineural/conductive loss identified following assessment
- NBHSW follow up proforma should be used for recording and sharing data on children < /=5years with >40dBHL permanent sensorineural/conductive loss identified by local service pathways
- NBHSW follow up proforma information should reflect data fields in the NBHSW HI Database Appendix 1
- Information on individual children can be updated using a NBHSW data sharing form Appendix 2.