

Auditory Brainstem Response Test

An Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) test is a **safe and painless** test that measures your child's hearing. By analyzing brain activity in response to sounds, the ABR measures how effectively sound travels from the ear to the brain.

How the ABR Works

- Your child does not need to do anything- **just sleep!**
- The skin on your child's **forehead and behind the ears** will be cleaned with a small exfoliating pad.
- Small **stickers** (electrodes) are placed on these areas.
- Soft **clicking sounds or tones** are played through earphones.
- A **computer measures your child's brain responses** to these sounds.

What to Expect

- The appointment is scheduled for **two hours**. The test itself **won't take two hours**, but extra time is allowed in case your baby wakes up and needs to sleep again.
- **Results are shared** with you during the appointment.
- An **audiologist** will participate virtually to guide the in-person assistant and analyze the results.

How to Prepare for Your Child's ABR Appointment

- Please try to **keep your baby awake** until the appointment so they'll be ready to sleep when we arrive. Make sure there's a **completely quiet** room where your child can sleep.
- We'll need access to an **electrical outlet**. Please turn off any other electrical equipment in the room.
- If there are **siblings**, plan an activity for them in another room so things stay calm.
- **Bathe your child** before the appointment, making sure their face and neck are clean and dry.
- Avoid using any **lotions, oils, or hair conditioner**.
- Try to **feed your baby** right at the start of the appointment to help them relax and fall asleep.

We want you to feel **prepared** and **at ease** so your child's ABR test goes as **smoothly as possible!**

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Parent Checklist

Please be sure to complete all items before your appointment so the test runs as smoothly as possible.

☐

Two hours are set aside for the appointment.

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I have a clean area for the assistant to set up the hearing test equipment.

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I've kept my baby awake so that they can sleep through the appointment.

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The test will take place in a completely quiet room.

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There is an electrical outlet available in the room.

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If my baby has siblings, they are set up with an activity in another room so things stay calm and quiet.

☐

My baby is bathed, their face and neck are clean and dry, and I've avoided any lotions, oils, or hair conditioner.

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I am prepared to feed my baby during the appointment.