

WHAT IS CMV?

CMV IS A COMMON VIRUS WHICH CAN INFECT PEOPLE OF ALL AGES.

CMV is the most common cause of non-hereditary congenital hearing loss. A pregnant mother who has CMV can pass on the infection to her baby. This can potentially damage the infant's brain, vision and/or hearing. According to the National CMV Foundation, one out of 150 children in the United States are born with CMV, and one in five children born with CMV will develop permanent problems like hearing loss or mental delays.

Most CMV infections have no signs, symptoms or harmful effects. However, CMV may cause hearing loss in one or both ears; may cause varying degrees of hearing loss; and may cause hearing loss at birth or later in life. Children born with CMV should have regular diagnostic tests to identify potential hearing loss until they are 5 years old.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR NEWBORN'S HEARING SCREENING RESULTS OR CMV TESTING, CONTACT THE DIVISION OF NEWBORN SCREENING AND GENETICS AT 717-783-8143.



PA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
625 Forster Street
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**PA DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH
CYTOMEGALOVIRUS (CMV)
INFORMATION FOR PARENTS**

CMV AND YOUR INFANT'S HEARING

IF YOUR BABY DID NOT PASS THE INITIAL HEARING SCREENING, YOU SHOULD DISCUSS CMV TESTING WITH YOUR BABY'S PEDIATRICIAN *BEFORE BEING DISCHARGED FROM THE HOSPITAL.*

If you have a home birth, give birth in a birthing facility, or other occasion where the initial hearing screening is not performed in a hospital, you should contact the baby's pediatrician as soon as possible to discuss testing for CMV.

The CMV test must be completed within 21 days of birth.

CMV can be diagnosed by testing an infant's saliva or urine.

Babies who are diagnosed with CMV and are treated early may have better health outcomes.



TIMELINE FOR HEARING SCREENINGS AND CMV TESTING

- Hearing screening should be performed between 24 and 48 hours of life.
- **For babies who do not pass the initial hearing screening, a CMV test should be completed within 21 days of birth.**
- An outpatient hearing re-screen should be completed within **1 month** of birth for babies who do not pass the hearing screening.
- A diagnostic evaluation should be completed within **3 months** of birth for babies who do not pass the re-screen.
- You should contact your pediatrician to connect you with a pediatric audiologist.