



Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) Test



What is an ABR test?

- ABR is a test to learn about your baby's hearing.
- ABR measures how your baby's hearing nerve responds to sound.
- An ABR test does not cause pain to your baby.

Getting ready for the ABR test

- Bring a comfort item for your baby if you have one.
- Do not let your baby nap before the test. Your baby will need to sleep during the test.
- Be ready to breastfeed or bottle feed your baby during the ABR test.
- You can bring a second caregiver, but please do not bring other children to this visit.

What happens during the test

- 1 You will meet the audiologist who will do the test with your baby. An audiologist is a person who has special training to diagnose, manage and treat hearing and balance problems.
- 2 The audiologist will take you and your baby to a room with dim lights. You will sit in a recliner with your baby.



- 3 The audiologist will ask you some questions and talk with you about the ABR test.

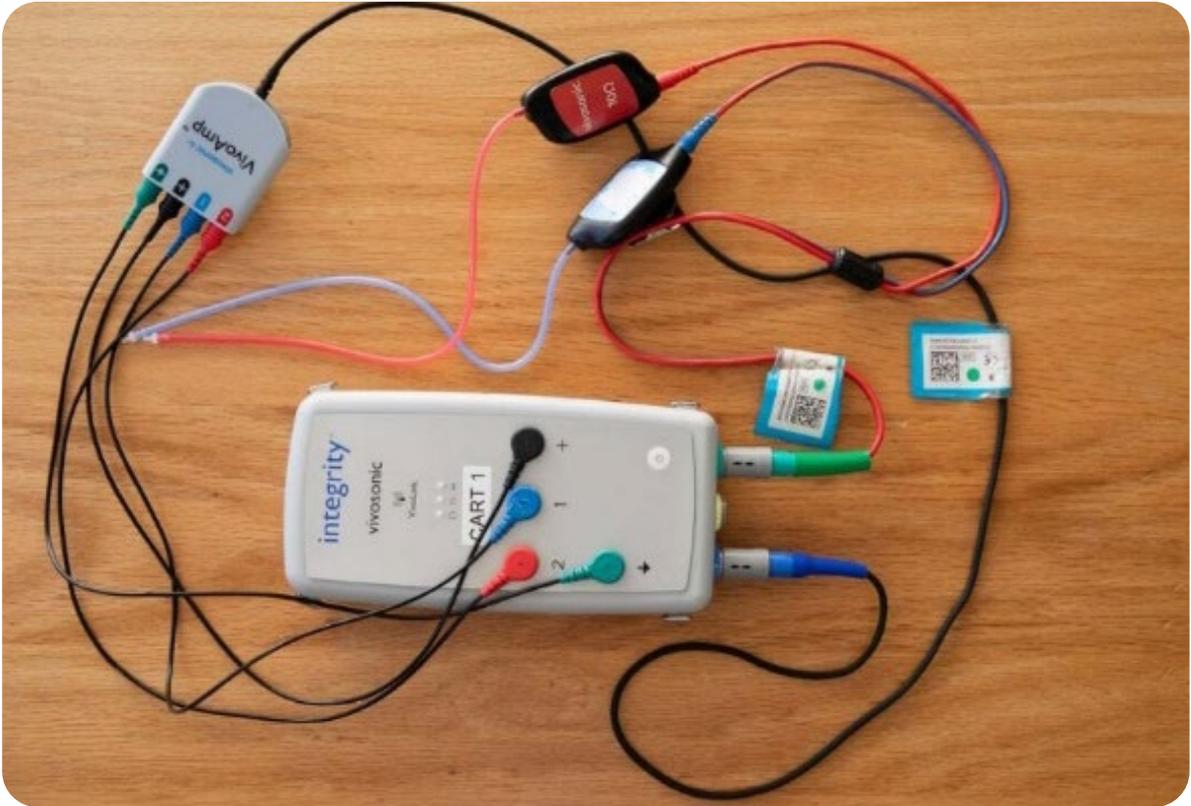
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Then, the audiologist will use a cleaning prep pad to clean your baby's forehead and behind their ears.



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The audiologist will put equipment for the test near you and your baby.



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Next, the audiologist will put electrode stickers on your baby.



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The audiologist will put small headphones in your baby's ears.



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Next, you will need to help your baby go to sleep. You can breastfeed or use a bottle during this time. The audiologist does not stay in the room while your baby goes to sleep. Once your baby is asleep, you can press a button that will alert the audiologist.



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After your baby falls asleep, the audiologist will start the test. You will hold your baby during the test and help them stay comfortable. Your baby must stay asleep during the test. We will put a sign on the door to help keep the area quiet. Once your baby is asleep, the test usually takes about 45 minutes.

The audiologist will pause the test if your baby wakes up.



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After the test is done, the audiologist will tell you what they learned from your baby's ABR test.



Other Tools



Otoscope: helps the audiologist see inside your baby's ears.



Bone oscillator: a type of headphone that goes behind your baby's ears. It sends sound vibrations to your baby's inner ear.



OAE (Otoacoustic Emissions): a small headphone that puts sounds in your baby's inner ear and measures the sounds that come back.



Tympanometer: checks your baby's eardrums.