

## HEARING LOSS IN CHILDREN: THE EHDI PROGRAM AND BEYOND

Alaska Nurse Practitioner's Meeting  
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Program

### DISCLOSURE OF COMMERCIAL INTERESTS

Neither I nor any members of my immediate family have a financial interest (currently or within the past 12 months) with any proprietary entity producing health care goods or services related to the content of this CME activity.

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31st Annual Alaska Nurse Practitioner's  
Conference

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Learn about the principles of newborn screening in general and the EHDI program in specific.
2. Understand the PCPs responsibilities (in the EHDI program) to their patients.
3. Congenital versus Delayed/Progressive Forms of Hearing Loss
4. Cytomegalovirus- Its role in childhood hearing loss
5. Mild and Unilateral Hearing Loss – "It's Not Nothing."

▶ "Deafness separates people from people"

▶ Helen Keller



### AAP TASK FORCE ON NEWBORN INFANT HEARING



- ▶ Endorses implementation of universal newborn hearing screening
- ▶ Defines standards for:
  - ▶ Screening
  - ▶ Tracking & Follow-up
  - ▶ Identification & Intervention
  - ▶ Program Evaluation
- ▶ Encourages AAP Chapters to provide leadership in developing statewide programs

### PREVIOUS HIGH RISK SCREENING:

- ▶ 50% of newborn hearing loss went undetected (many full term infants with no risk factors)
- ▶ Until recently, average age of identification of hearing loss was 2.5 years; even later for mild and moderate hearing loss

### PREREQUISITES FOR A POPULATION SCREENING PROGRAM

- Condition sufficiently frequent in screened population - **YES**
- Condition serious or fatal without intervention-**YES**
- Condition must be treatable or preventable-**YES**
- Effective follow-up program possible-**YES**

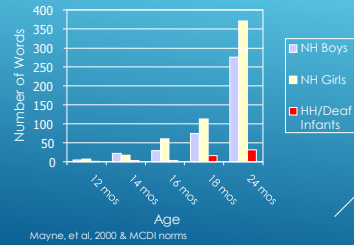
### INCIDENCE OF ROUTINELY SCREENED NEWBORN CONDITIONS

Per 10000	Condition
	Metabolic Screening (45)
2.4	Amino Acid Disorders (11)
0.7*	Fatty Acid and Organic Acid Disorders (10/15)
4/0.6	Endocrine (2 – CHI, CAH)
*	Hemoglobinopathies (4)
3-4	Cystic Fibrosis
0.25	Other (galactosemia, biotinidase deficiency)
0.3	Cyanotic Heart Disease
30	<b>Congenital Hearing Loss</b>

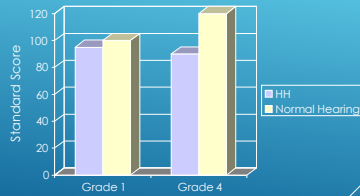
### WHY IS EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF HEARING LOSS IMPORTANT?

- ▶ Hearing loss is the most common birth defect
- ▶ Previous methods for detecting hearing loss have been ineffective
- ▶ **Undetected hearing loss can delay speech, language, social & academic development**

### VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT IN INFANTS



### READING COMPREHENSION IN CHILDREN WITH MILD-MODERATE LOSS



### DEGREES OF HEARING LOSS

- Profound (over 90 dB)**
  - No response to speech.
  - Must use visual cues to communicate.
  - May respond to vibration from sound
- Severe (71 dB-90dB)**
  - Speech heard only when loud and at close range
  - Difficulty hearing and understanding always
  - May show awareness, not recognition to sound (clap)

## DEGREES OF HEARING LOSS

### Moderately severe (56-70dB)

- Misses nearly all speech signal necessary to develop normal speech and language
- May respond to loud environmental sounds

### Moderate (41-55dB)

- Misses 50-75% of speech signal
- May do well close up and face to face but have difficulties across the room
- Difficulty discriminating consonants

## DEGREES OF HEARING LOSS

### Mild (26-40dB)


- Misses 25-40% of speech signal
- Trouble understanding (Hears sound, but not all info)
- More trouble at distance or in noisy environment

### Slight (16-25dB)


- Difficulty with quiet speech or at distance
- Background noise interferes
- May miss 10% of signal at more than 3 feet

## WHAT DOES IT SOUND LIKE TO HAVE A HEARING LOSS?

Severe hearing loss 

Moderate hearing loss 

Mild hearing loss 

Normal hearing 



## WHY IS EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF HEARING LOSS IMPORTANT?

- ▶ Early identification and intervention can make a difference



## YOSHINAGA-ITANO LANDMARK STUDIES

- ▶ Children who are diagnosed with hearing loss before 6 month *and* receive appropriate intervention demonstrate:

**Better receptive and expressive language**

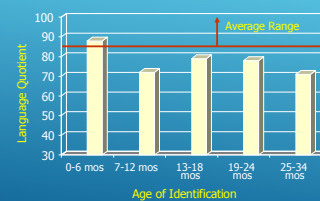
**Better expressive vocabulary**

**Better personal-social skills**

*and*

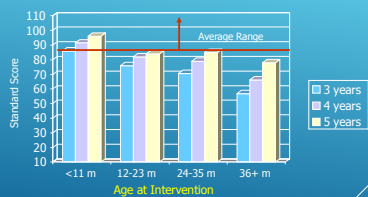
*Maintain those skills within normal limits*

## EFFECTS OF AGE OF IDENTIFICATION ON LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT



Yoshinaga-Itano, et al, 1998

RECEPTIVE LANGUAGE OVER TIME  
BY AGE OF INTERVENTION



Moeller, 2001

3 YEAR OLD WITH MILD-MODERATE HEARING LOSS –  
DIAGNOSED AT AGE 3



3 YEAR OLD WITH MODERATE-SEVERE LOSS:  
DIAGNOSED AT BIRTH



5 YEAR OLD – MILD-MODERATE LOSS  
DIAGNOSED AGE 3  
POST-INTERVENTION



SCREENING TECHNIQUES

- ▶ Otoacoustic emissions (OAE)
- ▶ Auditory brainstem response (ABR)
- ▶ Two stage screening (OAE + ABR)

## OTOACOUSTIC EMISSIONS



- Sounds are presented to the ear canal and a small microphone measures the response in the ear canal
- Average test time is 5-15 minutes/baby

## AUTOMATED AUDITORY BRAINSTEM RESPONSE (AABR)



- Sounds are presented and surface electrodes measure brainstem activity
- Average test time 20 min/baby

## AUTOMATED AUDITORY BRAINSTEM RESPONSE



## WHAT IF A BABY FAILS UNHS?

- ▶ Failure rates range from 1.5-5.0% in good screening programs
- ▶ The incidence of hearing loss is 3/1000 babies. Most babies who fail the initial screening will actually have normal hearing
- ▶ Babies should have re-screen within 2 weeks of birth to expedite referral for diagnostic testing.

## COUNSELING AFTER NHS REFER



## DIAGNOSTIC TESTING

- ▶ Referral for follow-up testing
  - After second refer (fail), patient should be considered as having a **developmental emergency**.
  - Early referral for diagnostic testing should be the rule.
  - Diagnostic BAERs are labor intensive for audiologist and experienced pediatric-trained audiologist need to be availed ASAP. Referral at 3 months or later usually require sedation, but younger infants can often get non-sedated BAERs which lower cost/risk.
  - Delays also increase risk of middle ear infections/fluid that can complicate diagnosis

## COUNSELING AFTER DIAGNOSIS



## WHAT IS A MEDICAL HOME?™



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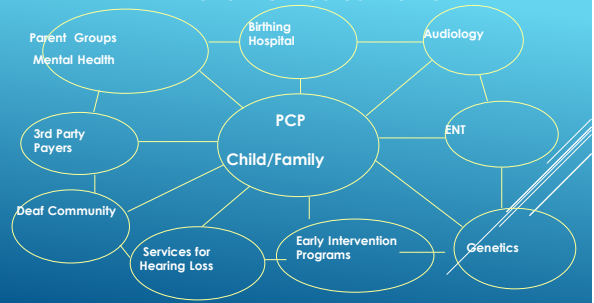
A philosophy of care emphasizing the primary care practitioner which is:

- Accessible
- Family-centered
- Comprehensive
- Continuous
- Coordinated
- Compassionate
- Culturally effective

## PCP'S ROLE AFTER DIAGNOSIS

- ▶ History – prenatal, neonatal, family
- ▶ ENT referral – CT/MRI, ?middle ear disease
- ▶ Ophthalmology referral
- ▶ Evaluate for possible syndrome. Genetics referral
- ▶ Referral to Early Infant Program
- ▶ Provide support via other parents of children with hearing loss (ie Stone Soup group)

## EHDI and the Medical Home



## ROLES OF THE MEDICAL HOME

- ▶ Understand testing results at screening and diagnostic phases and their implications for follow up
- ▶ Assure follow-up screening; refer for diagnostic and medical specialty evaluations
- ▶ Support family in understanding severity & type of hearing loss
- ▶ Discuss Communication Options

## ROLES OF THE MEDICAL HOME

- ▶ Offer partnership with parents to identify and develop a plan of health and habilitative care
- ▶ Provide ongoing surveillance, especially for infants with risk indicators for progressive or late onset hearing loss, and for infants with unilateral hearing loss

## MEDICAL HOMES AND FAMILY FUNCTIONING

With Medical Homes, families report less difficulties with :

- Parental Coping
- Parental Aggravation
- Child care/Workplace
- Missed school days

*Arauz Bourdreau et al. Academic Pediatrics, 2012*

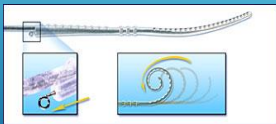
## AMPLIFICATION



- ▶ Hearing aids can be fitted as young as 1 month of age



## Management of Infant Hearing Loss: Cochlear Implants

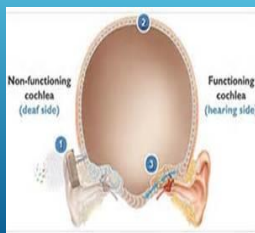


## CI CANDIDACY CRITERIA

- ▶ 3-6 month trial with hearing aids; lack of benefit
- ▶ Age of implantation: 12 mos. for profound loss (90dB+); >18 mos. for severe to profound loss (+70dB)
- ▶ No medical contraindications
- ▶ Education focusing on auditory-oral skills
- ▶ Family factors (motivation, expectations)



## BONE ANCHORED HEARING APPARATUS (BAHA)



## CHOICES IN COMMUNICATION

- ▶ It is about COMMUNICATION, not methodology
- ▶ Choosing methods or devices is a process that is flexible, ongoing & changeable
- ▶ Early ID provides a window of time for exploration
- ▶ "Goodness of Fit", family goals, family resource allocation, potential "risks" & effectiveness matter



### Diagnosed Hearing Loss

- Alaska births – approximately 11,300
  - Incidence of diagnosed hearing loss 1-3 per 1,000 diagnosed through newborn hearing screening (National prevalence 2011: 1.5 per 1,000)
- Infant diagnosed with hearing loss:
  - 2012-- 22 infants
  - 2011 – 18 infants (prevalence 1.6 )
  - 2010 – 20 infants
  - 2009 – 19 infants

### OUT OF HOSPITAL SCREENING



### INFANTS BORN OUT OF HOSPITAL

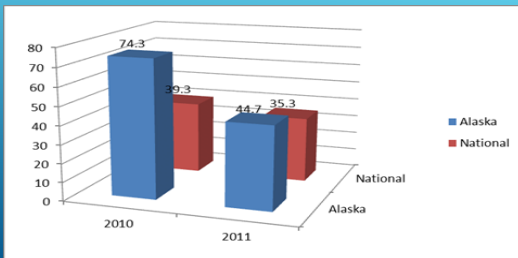
- 6 percent of all Alaskan newborns are born out-of-hospital (OOH)
- Statute addresses notification by Bureau of Vital Statistics (monthly) to EHDI Program of infants born out of hospital.
- EHDI Program to notify parents of the merits of newborn hearing screening.
- Names checked against database and letters generated.
- Letter sent to Parents – screening location card and milestone checklist.

Screening rate for OOH: 38% in 2010  
72% in 2013

### FOLLOW-UP FOR INFANTS WITH A MISSED OR FAILED SCREENING

- Reports generated from EHDI database of infants with a missed or failed hearing screening – name, birth date, screening result, parents name
- Monthly "fax back" system to communicate with birth screen providers as to status of follow-up screens
- Parent Contacts
- Referrals to Audiology
- Communication with Infant's Medical Home

### IMPROVEMENT IN LTF/LTD



### Challenges/Opportunities

YEAR	TOTAL	MILITARY	ANMC	Remote Regional Hospitals	PRIVATE	OTHER
2010	150	76 - (51%)	18 - (12%)	18 - (11%)	32 - (21%)	5 - (2%)
2011	72	12 - (17%)	12 - (17%)	18 - (25%)	27 - (38%)	3 - (4%)



## Parent Involvement

## Parent Involvement

### Parent Navigation

- ▶ Stone Soup Group Partnership
  - ▶ Resources
  - ▶ Parent to Parent

### Resources

- ▶ Communicate with Your Child  
<http://www.communicatewithyourchild.org/brochures.html>
- Alaska specific insert*
- ▶ Decision Guide to Communication Choices  
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/hearingloss/reematerials/Decision-Guide.pdf>
- ▶ Hearing Aid Loaner Program



## New EHD! Resources

- Coming Soon from CDC:
  - **“What Else Checklist”** – Considerations for audiologists before, during and after audiology appointment. Developed by the Parent to Parent Committee from the parent perspective
  - EHD! Packet for Ear, Nose & Throat Doctors (Otolaryngologists)
  - **“Just in Time”** materials (revised) for primary care providers



## HEARING LOSS: INCIDENCE

- ▶ **Congenital: 3/1000 live births**
- ▶ **Late onset/acquired: Less studied-estimated 12-19/1000 by age 19**

## RISK FACTORS FOR HEARING LOSS

Family History of Hearing Loss *	Caregiver Concerns *
Intra-Uterine Infections *	Syndromes assoc. with HL * Physical findings assoc. with above
Neurodegenerative Diseases *	Hyperbilirubinemia with transfusion
Post-natal Infections *	ECMO *
Assisted Ventilation	Head Trauma *
Oto-toxic meds, loop diuretics	NICU > 5 days
Cranio-facial anomalies	Chemotherapy *
* Great concern of late onset/progressive hearing loss	

## AT RISK FOR CONGENITAL HEARING LOSS

- ▶ More than 48 hours in NICU
- ▶ Family history of congenital or delayed hearing loss
- ▶ Stigmata associated with SNHL or conductive HL
- ▶ Cranio-facial anomalies especially with external ear anomalies
- ▶ Intra-uterine/gestational infection (CMV, Rubella, Syphilis, Herpes, Toxoplasmosis)

## GENETIC CAUSES

- Single gene      Connexin 26, 70 genes
- Gene + *environment*      Mitochondrial +  
(Epigenetics)                  ototoxic
- Multiple genes

## PHYSICAL MARKERS FOR SYNDROMES ASSOCIATED WITH HEARING LOSS - HEAD

## Waardenburg syndrome

- asymmetric facies
- eye abnormalities
- ear abnormalities
- Vertebral changes



## Goldenhar syndrome

- white forelock
- Iris heterochromia
- midface anomalies



## PHYSICAL MARKERS FOR SYNDROMES ASSOCIATED WITH HEARING LOSS - HEAD

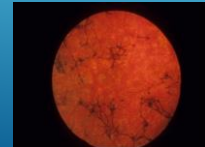
## Stickler syndrome

- Flattened facial profile
- Cleft palate
- Ocular disorders
- conductive and high frequency, progressive HL



## Usher syndrome – 3 types

- Retinitis pigmentosa
- Moderate-profound CHL
- Vestibular problems



## PHYSICAL MARKERS FOR SYNDROMES ASSOCIATED WITH HEARING LOSS

## Thyroid

- Pendred syndrome (5% of congenital HL)
- Thyroid goiter (euthyroid) – may be undetected
- Enlarged vestibular aqueduct (Mondini malf.)
- Trauma may cause deafness
- Variable hearing loss

## Skeletal

- Osteogenesis imperfecta
- Susceptibility to bone fracture
- Blue sclerae
- Wide variability of expression

## PHYSICAL MARKERS FOR SYNDROMES ASSOCIATED WITH HEARING LOSS-HEART

## CHARGE syndrome –

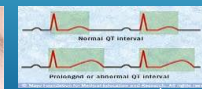
- coloboma,
- Heart abnormalities,
- atresia choanae,
- retarded growth and devel., genital hypoplasia/undescended testicles,
- ear anomalies/deafness



## Jervell and Lange-Nielsen syndrome

Prolonged QT syndrome (SIDS)

Profound SNHL



## PHYSICAL MARKERS FOR SYNDROMES ASSOCIATED WITH HEARING LOSS - KIDNEY

Most Common Syndrome Association  
 Timing of prenatal development similar  
 Infections/toxins may affect both  
 Similarities of structure and function  
 Membranes maintain chemical balance  
 Molecular structures damaged by drugs

## PHYSICAL MARKERS FOR SYNDROMES ASSOCIATED WITH HEARING LOSS - KIDNEY

Branchio-oto-renal syndrome  
 Branchial cleft fistulas/cysts  
 Auricular anomalies, pre-auricular pits  
 Varying degrees of renal anomalies  
 Alport syndrome  
 Nephritis (progressive), Hematuria  
 Progressive SNHL  
 x-linked

## PHYSICAL MARKERS FOR SYNDROMES ASSOCIATED WITH HEARING LOSS - KIDNEY

Muckle - Wells Syndrome  
 Urticaria  
 Recurrent fever, joint pain  
 Amyloidosis of kidney  
 Progressive SNHL  
 Renal Tubular Acidosis – autosomal recessive  
 2 types – early and late onset  
 Renal stones  
 Early profound or progressive SNHL

## PHYSICAL MARKERS FOR SYNDROMES ASSOCIATED WITH HEARING LOSS - KIDNEY

Charcot-Marie-Tooth syndrome  
 Progressive neuropathy - lower extremities  
 Nephritis  
 Progressive SNHL  
 Presents in adolescence  
 Epstein syndrome  
 Macrothrombocytopenia  
 Nephritis  
 Deafness



### Auditory and Visual Defects Resulting from Symptomatic and Subclinical Congenital Cytomegaloviral and Toxoplasma Infections

Sergio Stagno, M.D., David W. Reynolds, M.D., Catherine S. Amos, O.D., Arthur J. Dahle, Ph.D., Faye P. McCollister, M.A., Indra Mohindra, O.D., Rufino Ermocilla, M.D., and Charles A. Altford, M.D.

*From the Divisions of Infectious Disease, Speech and Hearing, and Vision Function (Center for Developmental and Learning Disorders), Departments of Pediatrics and Pathology, Medical School, University of Alabama in Birmingham, and The Children's Hospital, Birmingham, Alabama*

**ABSTRACT:** Sensorineural hearing loss was present in two of 39 (17%) patients with congenital cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection (three of eight born with symptomatic and seven of 31 born with subclinical infection). The defect was bilateral in eight, moderate to profound in eight, and of progressive nature in two. Hearing loss did not occur in 21 patients with natal CMV infection nor in seven of 12 patients with congenital toxoplasmosis. Histopathologic and immunofluorescent studies of the inner ear in two of three neonates who died with severe infection revealed that viral antigens were widely distributed in cochlear structures.

Eye pathology was associated only with congenital Toxo-

common abnormality resulting from congenitally acquired rubella,<sup>2</sup> and it is the one most easily overlooked in infancy.<sup>2-3</sup> In Eichenwald's follow-up studies,<sup>4</sup> auditory impairment occurred in approximately 15% (15 of 101) of children born with congenital toxoplasmosis, otherwise symptomatic, and 20% (four of 20) of those with congenital cytomegaloviral (CMV) infection had varying degrees of hearing loss in the McCracken et al. series.<sup>5</sup>

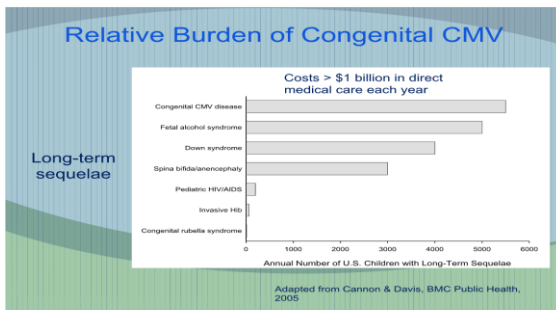
**PATIENT WITH HEARING LOSS AND CMV**

- ▶ **J.O. – DOB 10/10 at ANMC(?)**
- ▶ **Referred NHS**
- ▶ **BAER – Bilateral profound SNHL**
- ▶ **Urine positive for CMV**
- ▶ **No apparent signs of Symptomatic Congenital CMV**
- ▶ **No intra-cranial calcifications**
- ▶ **Ht and Wt 70-80%, HC 8%**

**CYTOMEGALOVIRUS**

- One of the Herpesviruses (HHV5)**
- Betaherpesvirinae (like HHV 6, 7)**
- Sero-prevalence increases with age and varies widely due to location, socio-economic status, ethnicity**
- Excreted in all bodily fluids**
- Infections usually asymptomatic**
- May cause mononucleosis in immunocompetent**
- Serious disease in immunoincompetent**
- Cost of treatment of CMV and complications – \$1-2 billion/year**

**Relative Burden of Congenital CMV**



**HERPESVIRIDAE - HUMAN**

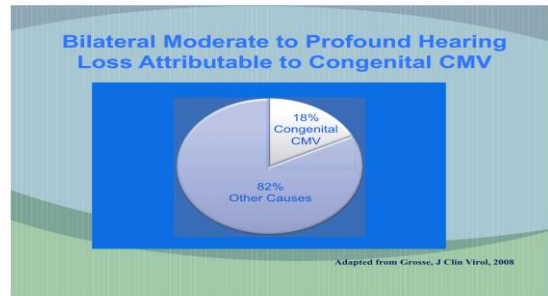
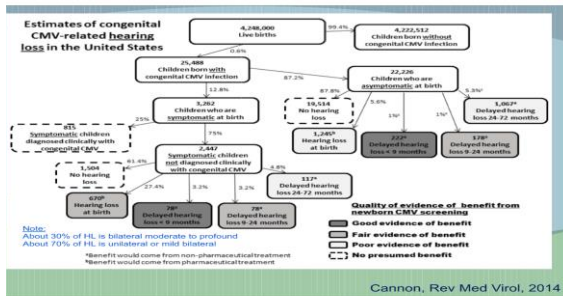
Type	Synonym	Sub family	Primary Target Cell	Site of Latency	Means of Spread
HHV-1	HSV1	alpha	mucoc epithelial	neuron	Close contact (STD)
HHV-2	HSV2	alpha	mucoc epithelial	neuron	Close contact (STD)
HHV-3	VZV	alpha	mucoc epithelial	neuron	Resp and Close Contact (STD)
HHV-4	EBV	gamma	B cells Epithelial cells	B cell	Close contact congenital,*
HHV-5	CMV	beta	Monos, lymphs, Epithelial cells	Mono, lymphs and ?	Saliva *
HHV-6	Roseola	beta	T cells and ?	T cells and ?	Resp. and close contact
HHV-7	Roseola	beta	T cells and ?	T cells and ?	?
HHV-8	KSHV	gamma	Lymphs and others	B cell	Close contact, Saliva, sexual

**CHARACTERISTICS OF SYMPTOMATIC CONGENITAL CMV**

- ▶ **Hepatosplenomegaly**
- ▶ **Microcephaly**
- ▶ **Thrombocytopenia**
- ▶ **Petechiae (Blueberry muffin)**
- ▶ **Jaundice with conjugated hyperbilirubinemia**
- ▶ **Chorioretinitis**

**HEARING LOSS AND CMV (UAB)**

	<b>Symptomatic</b>	<b>Asymptomatic</b>
<b>Subjects</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>651</b>
<b>Total Hearing Loss</b>	<b>85 (40.7%)</b>	<b>48 (7.4%)</b>
<b>Unilateral Hearing Loss</b>	<b>28 (32.9%)</b>	<b>25 (52.1%)</b>
<b>Bilateral Hearing Loss</b>	<b>57 (67.1%)</b>	<b>23 (47.9%)</b>
<b>Delayed Onset</b>	<b>23 (27.1%)</b>	<b>18 (37.5%)</b>
<b>Age Range</b>	<b>6-197 months</b>	<b>24-182 months</b>
<b>Progressive</b>	<b>46 (54.1%)</b>	<b>26 (54.2%)</b>
<b>Age Range</b>	<b>2-209 months</b>	<b>3-186 months</b>
<b>Sex, Male</b>	<b>59.1%</b>	<b>48.6%</b>
<b>Race, Black</b>	<b>50.0%</b>	<b>82.9%</b>



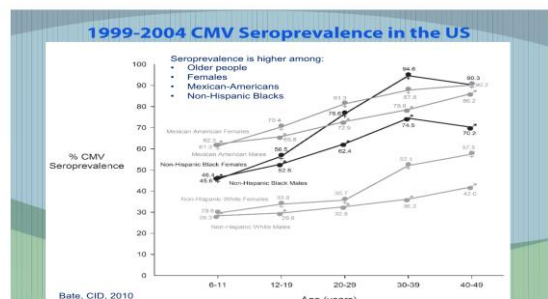
### CMV Natural History

Primary infection → Latency → Reactivation → Recurrent or secondary infection

Reinfection → Reactivation

### The Laboratory Vocabulary

Measurement	Labeled	Detects	Test format
Ever been infected	Seropositive	Antibody	ELISA
At risk for transmission	Shedding or excreting	Virus or viral DNA	PCR or culture



### Summary CMV Annual Seroconversion

Risk group	Summary annual seroconversion rate (%)	95% confidence interval (%)
Pregnant women	2.2	2.1 - 2.4
Parents with child not shedding CMV	2.1	0.3 - 6.8
Healthcare workers	2.7	2.3 - 3.2
Day care providers	8.5	6.1 - 11.6
Women attending STD clinics	13	10 - 17
Parents with child shedding CMV*	24	18 - 30

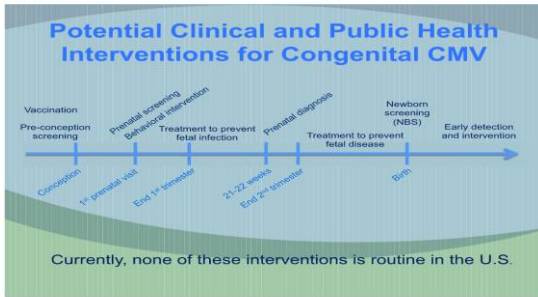
\*Annual infection rate of less 25% in this high risk group suggests that CMV is not easily transmitted.

Adapted from Hyde, Rev Med Virol, 2010

### Comparison of Models of Contagiousness

Study	Design	Force of infection (1/00 [1/y])	Basic reproductive rate	Age of infection (years)
Measles Mumps Rubella	Review Ages 11-17	20 12 10		
Varicella	Convenience	6		
CMV Griffiths (2001)	Hospital-based Ages 16-40	3.1 and 3.5	2.4 and 2.7	29 and 32 (median)
CMV Colugnati (2007)	Pop.-based Ages 12-49	1.8	1.7	28.7 (mean)
	Pop.-based Ages ≥12	0.84		
Hepatitis A	Pop.-based Ages ≥10	0.2-1.0		
Hepatitis B	Pop.-based Ages 6-39	0.15		

Adapted from Colugnati, BMC Infect Dis, 2007



### Utility of Newborn CMV Screening

<p><b>Probably satisfies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Important health problem</li> <li>• Recognizable latent or early symptomatic stage</li> <li>• Natural history adequately understood</li> </ul>	<p><b>May not yet satisfy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suitable test available</li> <li>• Test acceptable to population</li> <li>• Agreed on policy on whom to treat</li> <li>• Facilities for diagnosis and treatment available</li> <li>• Cost-effective</li> </ul>
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Grosse, J Clin Virol, 2009

### Laboratory Approaches to Newborn CMV Screening

Specimen	Method	Advantages	Disadvantages
Dried blood spot	PCR from DBS	NBS program already in place	CMV viral load lower in blood, less available specimen
Saliva	PCR from cheek swab	CMV viral load higher in saliva	Not part of existing NBS program
Urine	PCR from bagged urine or diaper insert	CMV viral load higher in urine	Not part of existing NBS program

Dollard, J Inher Metabol Dis, 2010

### TREATMENT-GANCICLOVIR

- ▶ Kimberlin et al, JPeds, 2003
- ▶ 42 patients with symptomatic CCMV had ABRs at base, 6, 12mo
- ▶ 6 weeks IV ganciclovir
- ▶ Stable or improved hearing at 6mo (P=.06)
- ▶ 21/25 (84%) treated patients 10/17 (59%) control patients
- ▶ Worsening hearing at 6mo
  - ▶ 0% of treated 41% of controls
- ▶ Stable or improved hearing at 12 mo (P=.08)
- ▶ 79% of treated 39% control
- ▶ Worsening hearing at 12 mo (P=.002)
- ▶ 21% of treated 61% of controls

### OTHER OUTCOMES WITH GANCICLOVIR

- ▶ No sustained difference in the two groups between head circumference, hepatomegaly, retinitis, weight gain, or hyperbilirubinemia
- ▶ Neutropenia in 63% if ganciclovir patients vs 21% of controls (P<.01)
- ▶ Valganciclovir – oral pro-drug

JID 2008: 197 – similar drug levels, 38% neutropenia

### PATIENT PRESENTATION - MD

1. MD : 3yo female, born in FL, military, noted to have GM delays and had some PT before coming to AK
2. After visit to our office, referred by PNP for evaluation and testing.
3. MRI showed white matter abnormalities.
4. Neuro said ?CP, ? Intrauterine viral infection, ? Leukodystrophy syndrome – refer to genetics
5. W/U: Neuro – VLDL fatty acids, Urine Organic acids, plasma amino acids, acyl carnitine
  - Genetics- urine for polysaccharides, oligosaccharides, 13-enzyme lysosomal packages
  - If above normal – suggest chromosomal microarray and molecular study
6. Sedated ABR showed profound HL on left, normal on right at age 2. repeat recommended
7. Chromosomal array might cost parents \$2000 out of pocket
8. Speculation ?? What if he was CMV+ as newborn??

### CMV-CONCLUSIONS

- ▶ **Congenital CMV is a leading cause of hearing loss in children**
- ▶ **It is potentially preventable**
  - preconception and prenatal education
- ▶ **Newborn screening is available**
  - need higher sensitivity, lower cost
- ▶ **Prenatal and postnatal treatments are being tested in clinical trials**
- ▶ **Immunizations may be important future strategy**



### Hearing vs. Listening: What are the Distinctions?



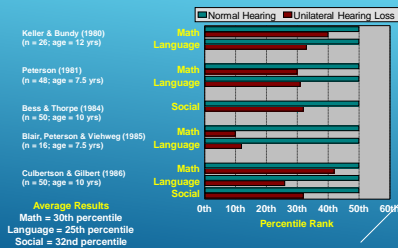
- **Hearing**
  - Is a sensory function that develops on its own
  - Is the act of receiving sounds and begins even before birth
  - Depends on physiology in the ear to transmit impulses to the brain
  - Processes sensory input
  - Is involuntary and not necessarily focused; we hear many different sounds simultaneously that compete for attention
  - Does not necessarily have a specific purpose
  - Can often be improved through technology (augmentative and assistive devices)
  - Often declines in older adults and needs to be augmented
- **Listening**
  - Is a cognitive ability that is learned and practiced
  - Is thought process, and does not begin until children try to interpret the sounds they hear
  - Relies on experience, skill, and practice
  - Comprehends sensory input
  - Is very focused and intentional; we have to become aware, filter out distractions, and focus attention
  - Occurs when there is a clear purpose in mind
  - Can be improved through practice and training
  - Often benefits from the patience and wisdom of advancing age

Tiptoe & Talk

### MILD AND UNILATERAL HEARING LOSS "IT'S NOT NOTHING"

- ▶ **Minimal Hearing Loss (15-25dB) for children**
  - Mild HL usually not picked up by UNHS
- ▶ **Unilateral Hearing Loss-Normal hearing in one ear and a Permanent Hearing Loss in the other**
  - 0.83/1000 overall (3.2/1000 NICU)(Prieve etal-2000)
- ▶ **Eligibility for Services uncertain**
  - Alaska – high probability of resulting in 50% DD

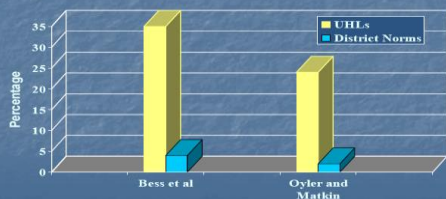
### Effects of Unilateral Hearing Loss



### DIFFICULTIES WHEN LISTENING WITH ONE EAR

- ▶ **Localization**
- ▶ **Understanding in noise, at distance or if speech presented to ear with loss**
- ▶ **Loss of Binaural Summation- worth 3-8dB (Lieu)**
- ▶ **Problems magnified in children-difficulties "filling in the blanks" while developing language**
- ▶ **The more severe the UHL, the greater likelihood of academic failure**
- ▶ **Right UHL more problematic than Left UHL**
- ▶ **UHL may progress, develop into BHL (Cole, Flexer-2007)**

### Percent Failing at Least One Grade: UHL



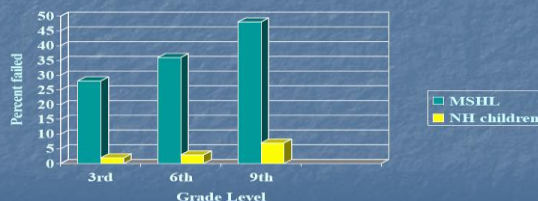
### Failure as a Function of Ear



### MINIMAL HEARING LOSS IN SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN BESS, ET AL

1218 Students – Grades 3, 6, 9  
 MSNL vs NH controls (5.4% with MSNL)  
 Evaluation Tools (CTBS, SIFER, Behav. Checklist, Grade Retention, Functional Status)  
 Results-CTBS lower at grade 3 (not 6 or 9)  
 37% of MHLS retained 1 grade  
 Greater difficulties with behavior, energy, stress, social support and self-esteem

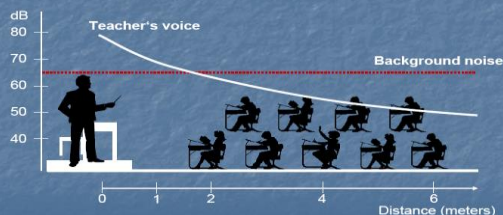
### Failure Rates of Children with MSHL & with NH (Bess et al., 1998)



### LISTENING FATIGUE AND SELF CONCEPT

- ▶ "Because sound is audible, but not understandable (in mild/unilat. HL), children may be inattentive, disinterested, or aloof...leading to problems in peer/social relations. ...not able to hear conversations in groups, ...may feel insecure, "left out" leading to difficulty with behavior and peer interactions"(Bess et al-1998)
- ▶ Problems accentuated if English is 2<sup>nd</sup> language
- ▶ Viewed as "giving up easily on new/difficult tasks"
- ▶ Rated lower in areas of dependence and independence, attention to task, emotional ability, peer relations and social confidence.
- ▶ Teachers frequently unaware of problem (McKay2006)
- ▶ Between 33 – 50% of children with mild/unilat HL have academic, social, or behavioral difficulties

### Distance and background noise



A wireless FM system consists of two basic components



How will I know if my child is having difficulty?

- Your child might: Get easily frustrated. Seem overly tired at the end of the day.
- Seem like he or she is not paying attention.
- Respond incorrectly to a question or request. "Act out" due to frustration.
- See more at:  
<http://www.asha.org/public/hearing/Unilateral-Hearing-Loss-in-Children/#sthash.xgAUv0Vg.dpuf>

## EHDI WEBSITES

Alaska EHDI website:

<http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/wcfh/Pages/newborn/default.aspx>

NCHAM website:

<http://www.infanthearing.org/stateguidelines/index.php>

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QUESTIONS?

