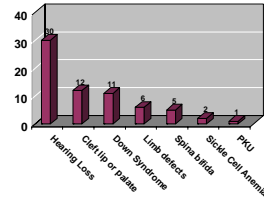


Initiating a newborn hearing screening program in Morocco

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Initiating a newborn hearing screening program

- All newborns should be screened for hearing loss (not just high risk) (NIH Conference Consensus, March 1993)
- Delayed identification of permanent childhood hearing loss interferes with speech & language development



Birth: Hospital based screening

- Physiologic testing: OAE, AABR, ABR
- Hearing screen pass is not lifetime guarantee
- Outpatient screen if missed screen



Required components

- Designate a program manager
- Provide supervision & training of screeners
- Maintain and calibrate equipment
- Report data

COST



Goals

- Confirmation of hearing loss type and degree : by age 3 months
- Appropriate medical referrals: ENT..
- Early intervention: by age 6 months (binaural hearing aid, cochlear implant)

Positive outcomes & minimize handicaps