

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE OF FLIP CHART

- With the use of this chart, you can inform people regarding the early identification of deafness.
- In order to use it correctly, explain to the group that some children may be suffering from deafness since birth. Early detection is important for proper treatment.
- This chart has many pages with pictures and written information. Hold the chart, so that these pages face the group. The same information along with few additional points is also given on the page facing you. Generate discussion with the group, as per the points given on this page. Explain the text to the group.
- In the end, once again stress the importance of early detection of deafness. Inform the group that the tests to identify problems regarding hearing is simple and guide them to the nearby centre where these tests are available.

DOES YOUR CHILD HEAR WELL?

Hearing loss is a serious problem.

Deafness **MUST** be detected early and treated.

If not treated early, child can have difficulty in speech.

LOOK FOR THE SYMPTOMS OF HEARING LOSS.



DOES YOUR CHILD HEAR WELL?

DISCUSSION

- Ask the group if they have ever come across a deaf child.
- Ask their experience of interacting with such child.

EXPLAIN TO THEM

- Hearing loss is a serious problem.
- Every parent wishes to have a healthy child. If a child has difficulty in hearing, she/he must be diagnosed early.
- Treating the child with hearing impairment early will help her/him learn language and speech later in life.

HOW CAN YOU DETECT DEAFNESS?

If a child does not respond to words, speak or follow instructions appropriate for her/his age, the child is most probably hearing impaired.



HOW CAN YOU DETECT DEAFNESS?

DISCUSSION

- Discuss with the group how a growing child respond to various sounds.

EXPLAIN TO THEM

- All of you understand how an infant starts responding to sounds and gradually starts babbling and speaking.
- By paying attention to these developmental landmarks, we can identify a hearing impaired child very early in her/his life.
- Let us now understand what these landmarks are.

FROM BIRTH TO 3 MONTHS OLD

Suspect hearing impairment
if a 3 month old child does not:

- Respond to very loud sounds
- Blink in response to a bang
- Wake up when there is a sudden noise near her/him



FROM BIRTH TO 3 MONTHS OLD

DISCUSSION

- Discuss with the group how a young baby responds to various sounds in the first three months of life.

EXPLAIN TO THEM

- If a 3 month old child does not:
 - Respond to very loud sounds
 - Blink in response to a bang
 - Wake up when there is a sudden noise near her/him
- There is a high probability that the child is having some impairment in her/his hearing apparatus.
- The ear and hearing of such a child should be tested as early as possible.

THREE TO SIX MONTHS OLD

Suspect hearing impairment if a 6 month old child does not:

- Turn towards the sound of her/his mother's voice
- Show any interest in any new sounds (like sound producing toys)
- Try to localize the sound source by moving her/his head or eyes



THREE TO SIX MONTHS OLD

DISCUSSION

- Discuss with the group how a young baby gradually responds to sounds more and more between the ages of three and six months.

EXPLAIN TO THEM

- If a 6 month old child does not:
 - Turn towards the sound of her/his mother's voice
 - Show any interest in any new sounds (like sound producing toys)
 - Try to localize the sound source by moving her/his head or eyes
- There is a high probability that the child is having some impairment in her/his hearing apparatus.
- The ear and hearing of such a child should be tested as early as possible.

SIX TO NINE MONTHS OLD

Suspect hearing impairment if a 9 month old child does not:

- Understands small words like 'come', 'by' spoken by the mother
- Show interest in squeaky toys
- Make any babbling sound



SIX TO NINE MONTHS OLD

DISCUSSION

- Discuss with the group how a young baby gradually starts understanding small instructions and words spoken by her/his mother/elders. The child also enjoys sounds around him and starts babbling at the age of 9 months or so.

EXPLAIN TO THEM

- If a 9 month old child does not:
 - Understands small words like ‘come’, ‘by’ spoken by the mother
 - Show interest in squeaky toys
 - Make any babbling sound
- Then the child must be taken to a doctor immediately and her/his hearing tested.

NINE TO FIFTEEN MONTHS OLD

Suspect hearing impairment if a 15 month old child does not:

- Respond to her/his own name
- Start speaking small words like 'Mama', 'Baba', 'Dada'
- Try to imitate word which she/he hears



NINE TO FIFTEEN MONTHS OLD

DISCUSSION

- Ask the group about the age, when a child at their home started speaking few words.
- Ask if their child responds to her/his name by the age of one year.

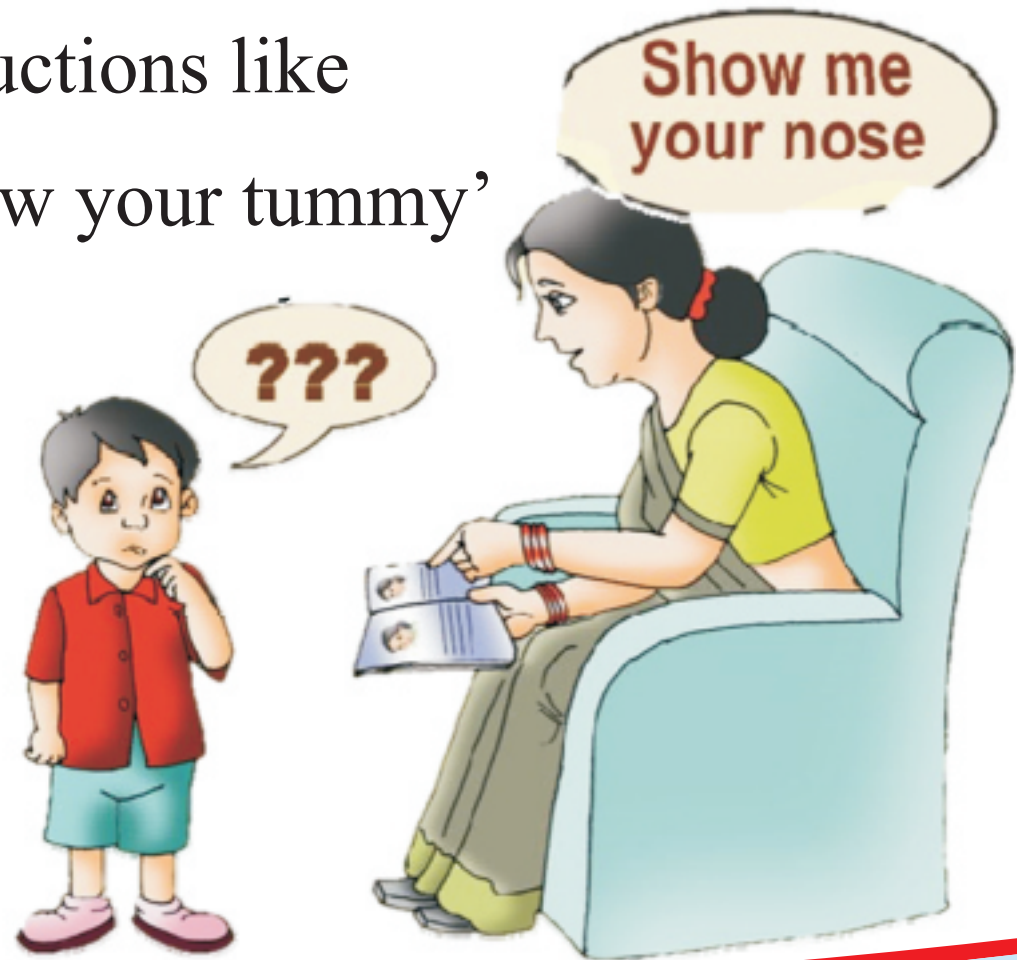
EXPLAIN TO THEM

- If a 15 month old child does not:
 - Respond to her/his own name
 - Start speaking small words like 'Mama', 'Baba', 'Dada'
 - Try to imitate word which she/he hears
- Then there could be a serious underlying problem.
- Such a child should be referred to hearing test without any delay.

FIFTEEN MONTHS TO TWO YEARS

Suspect hearing impairment if a two year old child does not:

- Respond to simple instructions like
- ‘Touch your nose’, ‘Show your tummy’
- Speak small sentences



FIFTEEN MONTHS TO TWO YEARS

DISCUSSION

- Remind the group that we often play word games with small children and ask them to point out their tummy or identify their mother etc.

EXPLAIN TO THEM

- If a 2 year old child does not:
 - Respond to simple instructions like ‘Touch your nose’, ‘Show your tummy’
 - Speak small sentences
- Then do not waste any time.
- Send the child for a hearing check-up immediately.

**IF YOUR CHILD HAS ANY OF THESE
SYMPTOMS, TAKE HER/HIM TO A NEAREST HEALTH
CENTRE FOR A HEARING TEST**



CHILDREN ARE THE FUTURE; NURTURE THEM!

IF YOUR CHILD HAS ANY OF THESE SYMPTOMS,
TAKE HER/HIM TO A NEAREST HEALTH
CENTRE FOR A HEARING TEST

It is important that a hearing impaired child should be identified very early. If the treatment is started early, the child can learn to hear, speak and go to school just like any other child.

CHILDREN ARE FUTURE; NURTURE THEM!