Kansas Administrative Regulations

Department of Health and Environment

Article 4.—Maternal and Child Health—Newborn Infant Hearing Screening Act.

28-4-601. Initial hearing screening test: technology and protocol.

(a) Trained personnel at each medical care facility shall provide initial hearing screening using ABR, AABR, OAE, and AOAE, in combination or alone, which objectively assesses the physiologic status of the ear and which has no greater than a 30-40 dB HL (decibel hearing level) criterion for a pass result or a referral for additional screening.

(b) Trained personnel at each medical care facility shall follow an initial hearing screening protocol that has been approved by the hearing screening state program coordinator.

(c) The initial hearing screening protocol shall include the following:

(1) The type of screening equipment to be used;

(2) the time frame for the first screening and, if needed, the second screening, before discharge;

(3) the plan for providing the results to the parent, the newborn's or infant's primary medical care provider, and the department;

(4) the methods and materials to be used to inform the parent of the following:

(A) The purpose, benefits, and limitations of hearing screening for newborns and infants;

(B) the procedures used for hearing screening;

(C) the risk indicators for delayed-onset, progressive, and acquired hearing loss;

(D) the factors that could result in a referral for further hearing screening, including debris in the ear canal and fluid in the middle ear;

(E) the effects of hearing loss on infant development, including speech and language development;

(F) the importance of follow-up hearing assessment;

(G) the benefits of early identification and intervention;

(H) the timelines for maximizing early intervention; and

(I) a list of facilities that provide audiologic assessment for newborns and for infants younger than five months of age; and

(5) the referral plan to be used if the hearing screening results are incomplete or if the newborn or infant does not pass the hearing screening.

(Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 65-1,157a; effective July 2, 2004.)

***** Authenticated Kansas Administrative Regulation *****