



Preparing for your child's Auditory Brainstem Response-Based Audiological Assessment (ABRA): Sedated

The Moncton Hospital	506-857-5365
Miramichi Regional Hospital	506-623-3120
Saint John Regional Hospital	506-648-6545
Upper River Valley Hospital	506-375-2569
Dr. Everett Chalmers Hospital	506-452-5931

An ABRA measurement shows the levels at which your child can detect different sounds. Your child was referred for this safe and routine test as previous tests could not verify that your child has normal hearing. The test requires your child to remain asleep. Sedation is given by a nurse or physician to keep your child in a carefully controlled unconscious state, or 'sleep'. The appointment could take most of the morning or most of the afternoon.

BEFORE THE TEST:

- Contact your Audiology department:
 - to confirm the date and time of your appointment.
 - if your child is congested or has an ear infection. It may be necessary to reschedule.
- Your pediatric team has instructions on how to prepare for sedation and what to expect afterwards. The instructions will be provided by your audiology or pediatric department.

TO PREPARE FOR THE TEST:

- Arrange childcare for other children (if applicable) as the test can take a few hours.
- Only one parent or guardian **may** be allowed in the test room depending on space limitations and test conditions.
- Do not use cream or oil on the child's face or head. It may interfere with the sensors.
- It is ideal to keep your child awake until their appt.
- Come prepared to keep your child comfortable (e.g. extra diapers; milk, formula or food; change of clothes; blanket and/or sleeping toy; soother).
- Bring your child's Medicare card.

DURING THE TEST:

- The physician or nurse will
 - discuss the medication risk, benefits, and side effects.
 - be required to obtain consent prior to providing the sedation.
- The audiologist will
 - gently scrub and place soft sensors on the forehead and behind the ears.
 - present sounds through earphones or a headband device.
 - measure responses while your child is asleep.
 - ask you to leave your cell phone off as it interferes with test equipment.

AFTER THE TEST:

- The audiologist will
 - review the information and discuss the next steps. Additional appointments may be required to complete measurements.
 - provide a report to your child's health care team.
- The physician or nurse will explain when they can be discharged and what to expect following sedation.



<https://horizonnb.ca/services/support-and-therapy/audiology/#Specialized-Diagnostic-Testing>