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| CDIS - Victorian Infant Hearing Screening Program (VIHSP) risk factor update |
| Victorian Maternal and Child Health (MCH)  Child Development Information System (CDIS)  Feb 2024 |
| OFFICIAL |

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# Purpose

This practice note was developed to guide the documentation process for the 2-week VIHSP Newborn hearing screen and the 8-month VIHSP Hearing Follow-up in CDIS Assessments and in the [VIHSP Community Audiology Referral form](https://www.rch.org.au/uploadedFiles/Main/Content/vihsp/VIHSP%20Community%20Audiology%20Referral%20form.pdf).

# Background

In 2020, following consultations with paediatricians, neonatologists, and other newborn hearing screening programs nationally, one of the risk factors for hearing loss was updated. The change in the risk factor was to the duration in the use of Ototoxic medication, that is from **3 days or more** to **three (3) or more consecutive doses**.

The Green Book documents the new risk factor in the 2-week VIHSP Newborn hearing screen and the 8-month VIHSP Hearing Follow-up as:

* “Ototoxic medication (e.g., vancomycin, gentamicin or other aminoglycoside antibiotics) for three or more consecutive doses,” shown in Image 1 and Image 2.

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| Image 1: 2-week VIHSP Newborn hearing screen | Image 2: 8-month VIHSP Hearing Follow-up |
| ***Image 1: 2-week VIHSP Newborn hearing screen*** | ***Image 2: 8-month VIHSP Hearing Follow-up*** |

The updated risk factor was made available in the CDIS Assessments from 5th February 2024, but has not been updated on the [VIHSP Community Audiology Referral form](https://www.rch.org.au/uploadedFiles/Main/Content/vihsp/VIHSP%20Community%20Audiology%20Referral%20form.pdf) located on the RCH web site.

As a result, the form on the RCH web site reflects the 2019 risk factor definition, as shown below.

* “Aminoglycoside antibiotics (e.g., gentamicin) administered for 3 days or more”

# Process

**Until the risk factor description is changed on the** [VIHSP Community Audiology Referral form](https://www.rch.org.au/uploadedFiles/Main/Content/vihsp/VIHSP%20Community%20Audiology%20Referral%20form.pdf)**, please follow the following documentation process:**

1. If the risk factor “*Ototoxic medication (e.g., vancomycin, gentamicin or other aminoglycoside antibiotics) for three or more consecutive doses”* is identified, **do not tick** the description risk factor “Aminoglycoside antibiotics (e.g., gentamicin) administered for 3 days or more’,

**instead**

1. Tick ‘**Other’** in the VIHSP Audiology Referral form and type in/cut and paste the new risk factor “*Ototoxic medication (e.g., vancomycin, gentamicin or other aminoglycoside antibiotics) for three or more consecutive doses”*, as per Image 3.

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| Image 4: Example of documentation for the VIHSP Audiology Referral form |
| ***Image 3: Example of documentation for the VIHSP Audiology Referral form*** |

You will be advised when the risk factor is updated on the [VIHSP Community Audiology Referral form](https://www.rch.org.au/uploadedFiles/Main/Content/vihsp/VIHSP%20Community%20Audiology%20Referral%20form.pdf).

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact mch@health.vic.gov.au.

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