Santé
et Services sociaux
Québec

DT9247

CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE QUÉBEC NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING PROGRAM

The parents[1] of all newborns in Québec are invited to participate in Québec's newborn hearing screening program. Approximately one in every 1,000 babies is born with hearing loss severe enough to have negative consequences on the child's development. Hearing loss is often undetected by parents and other people in contact with the child. The following information will help you decide whether you want your child to participate in the program:

Advantages of the screening program
The screening test is quick, painless and safe for the child. It detects hearing loss in the first few weeks after your child's birth. Without screening, hearing loss is often detected after the child is two years old. Thanks to screening, intervention to help communication with a hearing-impaired child can begin much earlier. The results of the screening test will be given to you quickly.

Inconveniences of the screening program
The screening test may have to be redone. In certain cases, a baby with normal hearing may not pass the screening test. When this is the case, further examination will be required, which may cause you some anxiety while awaiting the examination results. There may also be hearing loss that is not detected by the screening test or that may appear later, in the child's early years.

Before deciding whether you want your child to participate in Québec's newborn hearing screening program, please consider the following:

- You have received the information leaflet describing the advantages, inconveniences and limitations of the screening program. You have been able to ask questions and you have had enough time to reach a decision.
- You understand that further examination will be required if your baby does not pass the screening test.
- Should your child require additional testing at another healthcare network location, certain medical information[2] concerning your child will be made accessible to other healthcare professionals at that establishment (screener, audiologist, physician) in order for your child to receive the best possible care.
- Information[2] concerning all children who participate in the program will be kept in the program's data bank at the McGill University Health Centre, which is overseen by Québec's Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux. The information will be used on a confidential basis by program staff to ensure the quality of the program. The information will be kept for as long as the program is maintained. You can withdraw from the program at any time by contacting your testing centre; only minimal data[3] will remain in the data bank.

If you refuse: Intervention to help communication with a hearing-impaired child may begin much later. Only certain information[3] will be kept in the program's data bank for identification purposes; after five years the information will be destroyed. You can change your mind and decide to participate in the program or you can ask your physician for a hearing screening test only.

More information on the program is available on our website at www.msss.gouv.qc.ca/depistage-surdite (French only).

I have read[4] and understood the information on this page.

☐ I agree to have my child participate in the Québec newborn hearing screening program.

☐ I refuse to have my child participate in the Québec newborn hearing screening program.

Family name, given name of parent	Signature	Date Year Month Day

Name of witness (healthcare professional)	Signature	Licence No.

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[1] Parent or guardian, called the "parent" in this document.

[2] and [3] See detailed list on reverse.

[4] The contents of the document may have been read to the person who signed this consent.

☐ User's file
☐ Parent copy

2 List of information kept in the program’s data bank following parental consent

Child’s full name
Mailing address
Phone number
Date of birth
Sex
Parents’ full names
File number at place of birth
Québec health insurance number
Consent to participate
Hearing loss risk factors
Screening protocol results
Confirmation of follow-up by a monitoring centre
Results of audiology examinations
Medical diagnosis of ENT physician
Results regarding intervention and rehabilitation
Results regarding the diagnosis of late or progressive hearing loss

3 List of information kept in the program’s data bank following a refusal to participate or withdrawal

Child’s full name
Date of birth
Sex
Mother’s last name
File number at place of birth
Refusal to participate and refusal processing date