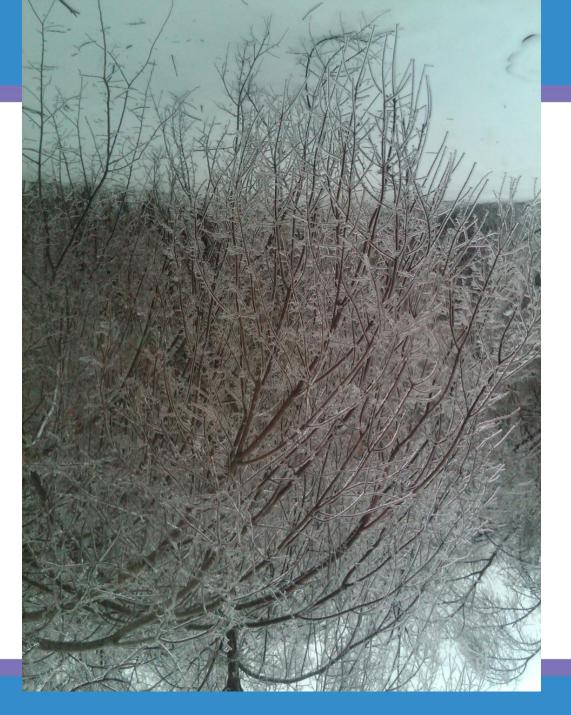
The Waiting Period: Strategies for Parents as they Prepare their Child for Cochlear Implants

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"We have determined your child is a candidate for a cochlear implant but...."

- We have to wait for your insurance to approve the procedure which could take 3-6 months
- Your child is not yet 12 months and your insurance won't approve the procedure until then
- We need to complete a trial with hearing aids





Words of Wisdom

- 1. Believe that everything happens for a reason, although the reason may not be clear
- 2. See an audiologist or other professional as soon as possible
- 3. Don't feel sad for too long, your baby needs you
- 4. Don't blame yourself
- 5. Learn about successful hearing impaired people
- 6. Get implants or hearing aids for your child to maximize their hearing and learn about all communication modes
- 7. Don't lose hope!

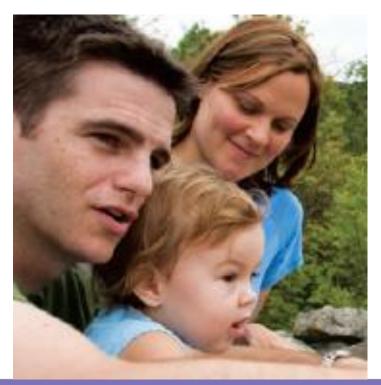


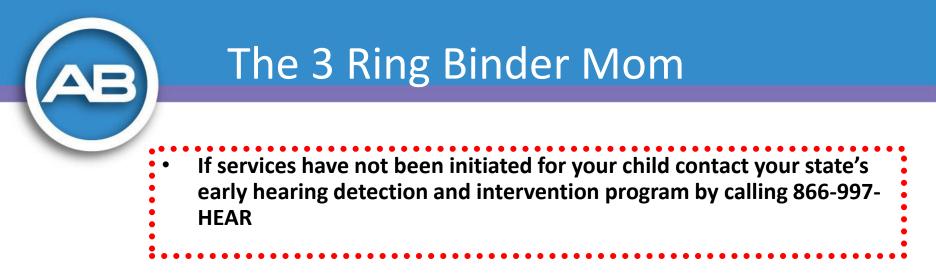
Regan Nicole Brady, 11 years old bilaterally implanted



The Waiting Period

- The 3 Ring Binder Mom
- If it Kept Your Child's Heart Pumping
- Turn off the TV
- Read like a mother!
- Connect





- Put your child's team in place
 - Initiate, evaluate and/or increase educational/therapy services
 - Develop rapport with your professional team
- Create a communication system among you and the professionals
 - Take the lead
 - Create a Communication Book



TOOLS for TODDLERS

EARLY INTERVENTION Communication Log

(Circle one) CI was: working / not working properly today. (Circle one) FM was: working / not working properly today.

Please describe any equipment problems:

Ling Sound Test	ah	6666	00	sh	55555	mmm	(silence)
Detected							
Identified							

(Circle all that apply) Child was happy/upset/tired/focused/not focused.

Notes regarding today's session:

TOOLS for TODDLERS



Ideas and concepts for family to work on at home:

I have read these notes from school:		
	Parent/Caretaker Initials	

TOOLS for SCHOOLS by Advanced Bloylex 1 EARLY INTERVENTION Communication Log

http://www.advancedbionics.com/CMS/Reh ab-Education/Tools-For-Toddlers/



If it Kept Your Child's Heart Going

"Because every dB counts" ~D. Goldberg, PhD



- Physical presence of something on the ear
- Developing the auditory pathway
- Consider adding FM



Create a Listening Rich Home

- Develop
 - Auditory Awareness
- Establish:
 - Routines for Listening
- Create:
 - Acoustic Friendly Home





Develop Auditory Awareness

- Draw a child's attention to meaningful sound
- Utilize a cue to signal "listen"
- Employ a natural and developmental approach
- Condition for a behavioral auditory response





Establish Routines

- Follow a schedule
 - Children like routines
- Create new experiences and exposures
 - Use of the child's other senses i.e. touch, smell, visual
- Think like a child
 - Understand a child's development and use that to your advantage





An Acoustically Friendly Home

- Beware of background noise
 - Children with hearing loss need the speech to be
 22 dB louder than the noise around them
- Stay close to your child during listening moments
 - Moving from 3 feet to 6 feet away can cost 6 dB of loudness
- Decrease competing distractions



Read Like a Mother

- Develops attention and turn taking skills
- Introduces vocabulary
- Imprints speech patterns
- Encourages Motherese
- For more information:
 - "The Read Aloud Handbook" by Jim Trelease
 - Advancedbionics.com



Breath

- Surround yourself support
 - Family members
 - Professionals
 - Other parents of children with cochlear implants
 - Join an organization
 - Professional references
 - BEA Mentor





Get Extended Family on Board

- Understand the technology
- Understand your goals
- Understand the expectations
- Include family as part of the process





Prepare for Surgery

- Keep her healthy!
- Consider preparing her.
- Who else should I prepare?
 - Yourself
 - older siblings
 - extended family

AB

Find Resources

• The Listening Room



Tools for Toddlers

• Bionic Ear Association



EListening Room



www.thelisteningroom.com



Elistening Room

- Activities
- Music
- Resources



This resource provides tools to help a young child maximize hearing success

TOOLS for TODDLERS

TOOLS for TODDLERS

ACY STRATEGIES for the Very Young Child

- Product Information
- Product Troubleshooting
- Educational management
- OnLine Education Courses
- Workshops
- On-call and online support
 - 866-844-HEAR
 - <u>ToolsForSchools@advancedbionics.com</u>



The Bionic Ear Association

- BEA Support Center
 - 866-844-HEAR
 - <u>Hear@AdvancedBionics.com</u>
- Hearing Journey Online Community
 - <u>www.HearingJourney.com</u>

- Connect with a Mentor Online
 - <u>www.BionicEar.com/CTM</u>
- Attend a Chapter Meeting
 - www.BionicEar.com/BEA





Summary

- Interim strategies to set up a successful transition to receiving a cochlear implant
- Pre-development of listening and language skills
- Create "good" listening and language habits at home
- Educate yourself and those who are a part of your child's life



Enjoy the Results

