



EARLY DETECTION OF DEAFNESS AND EARLY INTERVENTION

June, 2015

1. Organisations and countries

Hospital of St. John of God, Linz/Austria Association for Parents and Friends of deaf and hard of hearing people	Austria
Bosnian Association	Bosnia and Herzegovina* (B&H)
ARDUS	Bulgaria
Centre for the children's hearing Tamtam	Czech Republic
KLVL	Finland
ELTERNVEREINIGUNG in Hessen	Germany
DEAF HEAR.IE	Ireland
PAGAVA	Lithuania
FOSS	The Netherlands
FIAPAS	Spain
SVEHK	Switzerland
Hands & Voices	USA

Bosnia and Herzegovina (B&H) has a complicated political system. Health, education and social issues and their financing are regional competences. So, there are big differences among the regions. Neonatal hearing screening has been fully established in some regions, but not in other. Bosnian association has provided answers for the whole country and for the Canton of Sarajevo, largest Canton in the country, where 10% of the population lives).



In your country, is there any programme of universal neonatal hearing early detection? If yes, since when:

Country	Year	Comments
Austria	2012	In upper Austria there is a standardized newborn hear screening procedure implemented and there are clear guidelines (what happens and what are the next steps). Unfortunately this is not standard in all Austrian regions and hospitals. Some hospital's say, this should be done by an otolaryngologist. In the rest of Austria, it is unknown if there are plans for implementing it
Bosnia & Herzegovina	NO	Universal N.H.S. is not implemented in B&H, neither in Sarajevo In Sarajevo, for risk cases since 2002
Bulgaria	2014	December 2014
Czech Republic	2013	There's a decree law from Ministry of Health since 2013, but it still depends on recommendation of medical staff, it is not by law.
Finland	2005	Started in 1998 in Northern Finland. In 2005 nationwide implemented
Germany	2009	---
Ireland	2013	Fully implemented in Nov. 2013
Lithuania	2014	1 of January 2014
The Netherlands	2004	---
Spain	2003	Agreement among the Ministry of Health and Regional Health Administrations was adopted in 2003. Some Regions had already implemented it. Some others gradually did it. In 2010 it was fully implemented in the whole country
Switzerland	2000	---
USA	2002	It became universal in all 50 States around 2002



If it is implemented, is the opinion of your organisation that the programme is correctly working?

Country	Correctly working?	Detection in months	Diagnosis in months	% of babies covered	Quality standards	Register of cases	Comments
Upper Austria	YES	First days	3 months	*	YES	YES	In upper Austria there are 12.500 birth per year (1,4 million citizens) and 100 children from 0-6 years are per year in the programme (FLIP – Frühes Linzer Interventionsprogramm)
B&H Sarajevo	NO	18-24 months	30 months	NO	NO	NO	
Bulgaria	NO	First days	After detection	NO		NO*	No national register, but each hospital has its own register
Czech Rep.	NO	<1month	*	65-70%	NO	NO	It is not specified, some kids are diagnosed very early (we have some children diagnosed at 4 months, usually 0,5-1 year and given a hearing aids and at 1 year implanted cochlear), some wait with ABR till the age of 12 months or even more... depends on situation (paediatrician doesn't trust parents noticing some problem etc) .
Finland	YES	First days	≤3months	±100% *	YES	YES	* It is voluntary for the parents
Germany	YES	≤3 months	≤6 months	±95%*	YES	YES	* Personal estimation
Ireland	YES	≤1 month	≤2 months	98%	YES	YES	



Country	Correctly working?	Detection in months	Diagnosis in months	% of babies covered	Quality standards	Register of cases	Comments
Lithuania	NO*	≤1 month	3-6 months	96,8%	NO	NO	There is neonatal hearing screening, followed by provision with aids. But, no early intervention, and no counselling and guidance to the families
The Netherlands	YES	First days	1-2 months	97%	YES	YES	
Spain	YES	Before leaving maternity hosp. 0-1 month	≤3 months	± 90%	YES	YES	*In those Regions where no legislation has been adopted, it's voluntary for private hospitals * It also is voluntary for parents
Switzerland	YES	0 month	0 months	±100%	YES	NO	
USA	YES	0-1 month	≤3 months	99,2%	YES	YES/NO*	* Raw numbers are reported to the Center for Disease Control. Each state is responsible for the follow up on their own statistics...



After detection, is child referred to an early intervention programme? Are parent's associations involved in the process of early intervention? If yes, do they provide E.I. services? Any other kind of services?

Country	Referral to E.I. prog	Are parent's org. involved in E.I. process	Do org. provide E.I. services?	Do org. provide any other kind of services
Upper Austria	YES	YES	in the hospital, 2 parent-peers employed for the parent-to-parent-support	Parent organisation with 100 member families
B&H Sarajevo	YES	NO		
Bulgaria	NO	NO		
Czech Rep.	Not necessarily	NO		
Finland	YES	YES	NO	Information, share mutual experiences
Germany	YES	NO	--	--
Ireland	YES	YES	NO	Part of overall coordinating Committee
Lithuania	NO	Parent's association provide info and guidance to those families who apply to the association	NO	If doctors inform parents about association and parents apply for it, assoc. gives info and guidance and organizes meeting with other families
The Netherlands	YES	YES	NO	Evaluation of the programme; provide information of associations
Spain	YES	YES	YES Most of the local assoc. provide early intervention services	Speech therapy and support to the families (parent-to-parent peer help)
Switzerland	YES	NO	NO	NO
USA	YES	YES	NO	Parent to parent support; parent representation in the EHDI system; training to professional on the parent perspectives



In the case of 0-6 years old children, is the cost of hearing aids and/or cochlear implants covered by any kind of public administration?

Country	HEARING AID Is its cost covered by Public Admin?	Hearing aid (H.A.) provided / € provided/ of financing	IMPLANT Is its cost covered by Public Adm?	Implant provided / € provided % of financing
Upper Austria	YES totally	Both	YES Totally	Both
Bosnia& Herzeg. Sarajevo	NO YES partially	Sarajevo: financial support is provided. 20% each 36 months up to 15; each 48 months from 15 to 65	NO YES Totally	One cochlear implant is provided up to 7. Not bilateral, not any other implants, not older than 7 yrs
Bulgaria	YES partially	300 € per hearing aid (H.A.)	Yes Totally	YES
Czech Rep.	YES partially	Only the cheapest. Around 20%. 20 years	YES Totally	Implants are provided (not accessories and supplies)
Finland	YES Totally	H.A. & bat. provided for free up to 18 yrs.	YES Totally	YES
Germany	YES Totally	Public health insurances have to pay for optimal H.A. and batteries	YES Totally	Public health insurances have to pay for it
Ireland	YES Totally	Hearing aids are provided	YES Totally	YES (only one IC generally provided)
Lithuania	YES Partially	By law, 2 H.A. are provided for children up to 18 yrs (24, if students) If parents prefer better quality, 10% of compensation. In 2014, no provision, only compensations of 10%	YES Totally	YES / 100%
The Netherlands	YES Partially	Hearing aids are provided. Covered 75%	YES Totally	YES /100%
Spain	YES Partially	Financial contribution of ±35% up to 16 yrs. No batteries included	YES Totally	YES /100% (no batt. included) Renovation of some external components (sound processor, microphone and receiver) is covered public health every some years.
Switzerland	YES Totally	Hearing aids are provided. 100% of financing	YES Totally	YES 100%
USA	Yes (totally and partially)	Depending on private insurances (100% for low income families...)	Yes (totally and partially)	Depending on private insurances (100% for low income families...)



In the case of 0-6 years old children, is the cost of speech (re)habilitation covered by any kind of public administration?

Country	Is the cost of speech rehab. covered	Speech (re)hab. provided / € provided/ % of financing	Enough speech therapist	Waiting list and average delay
Upper Austria	YES Totally	Speech therapy is provided and also financed	YES	There is no waiting list
Bosnia& Herzeg. Sarajevo	NO YES Partially	--- Speech therapy is provided	--- YES	--- Children are included in rehab. Programme some months after hearing aid. But, they get only 1 or 2 terms per month
Bulgaria	Yes Totally	30 minutes of daily speech rehabilitation provided. Rehabilitation of children with implant is covered by hospitals. Rehabilitation of children with hearing aids is covered by resources centres, municipalities and the Union of the Deaf. ARDUS also provides speech rehabilitation services to its member's children	YES (in Sofia) NO (in the rest of the country)	
Czech Rep.	YES Totally	Speech therapy is provided	YES	Usually there is no waiting list
Finland	YES Totally	Doctor's indication is required. Speech therapy is provided by Gov.	Depends on the reg. Gov. has increased n° of students	Generally deaf and h-o-h children do not have waiting list
Germany	YES Totally	Public health insurances have to pay for (re)habilitation	YES	More often in cities than in countryside. Máx. 3 months
Ireland	YES Totally	Speech therapy is provided	NO	6-9 months



Country	Is the cost of speech rehab. covered	Speech (re)hab. provided / € provided/ % of financing	Enough speech therapist	Waiting list and average delay
Lithuania	YES	Speech therapy is provided	NO	There is no practice of waiting list. If there is enough, children receive speech rehabilitation. If not, they have less hours than those stated by law
The Netherlands	YES Partially	Speech therapy is provided and financial support also. 80%	YES	
Spain	YES Partially	Speech therapy services are provided, mostly by the parent's associations which have signed agreements with Health and/or Social Services regional departments. Children over 3 may also receive speech therapy at the school. In this case, services are paid by Education department	YES	
Switzerland	YES Totally	Speech therapy is provided. 100%.	NO	
USA	Partially	Income related	YES	Generally not

Madrid, 30 June, 2015