

Screening Infants below 36 weeks Gestational Age in Victoria 2011-2012

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Victorian Infant Hearing Screening Program



Quality & Monitoring

- Large monitoring projects are a part of our ongoing quality plans
- Difficult to investigate specifics
 - Unable to automatically report or alert events like screening before 34.0 wks CGA

Eligible or not?



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- Gestational Age:
>34 wks and <6 months
- Well, term baby
- Asleep or in a settled state
- Close to discharge

Actual GA & VIHSP database GA field

- First point of rounding is at birth notification during data entry
 - 33.4
à 33 wks
 - 33.5
à 34 wks
- Second point of rounding is a daily adjustment by the VIHSP database
= I NELI GIBLE babies on 'TO DO' list

Screened: <34 weeks

Number of babies screened GA <34wks

61

% of babies screened GA <34wks
(of all eligible births notified to VIHSP)

0.08%

Screened <34 weeks: results

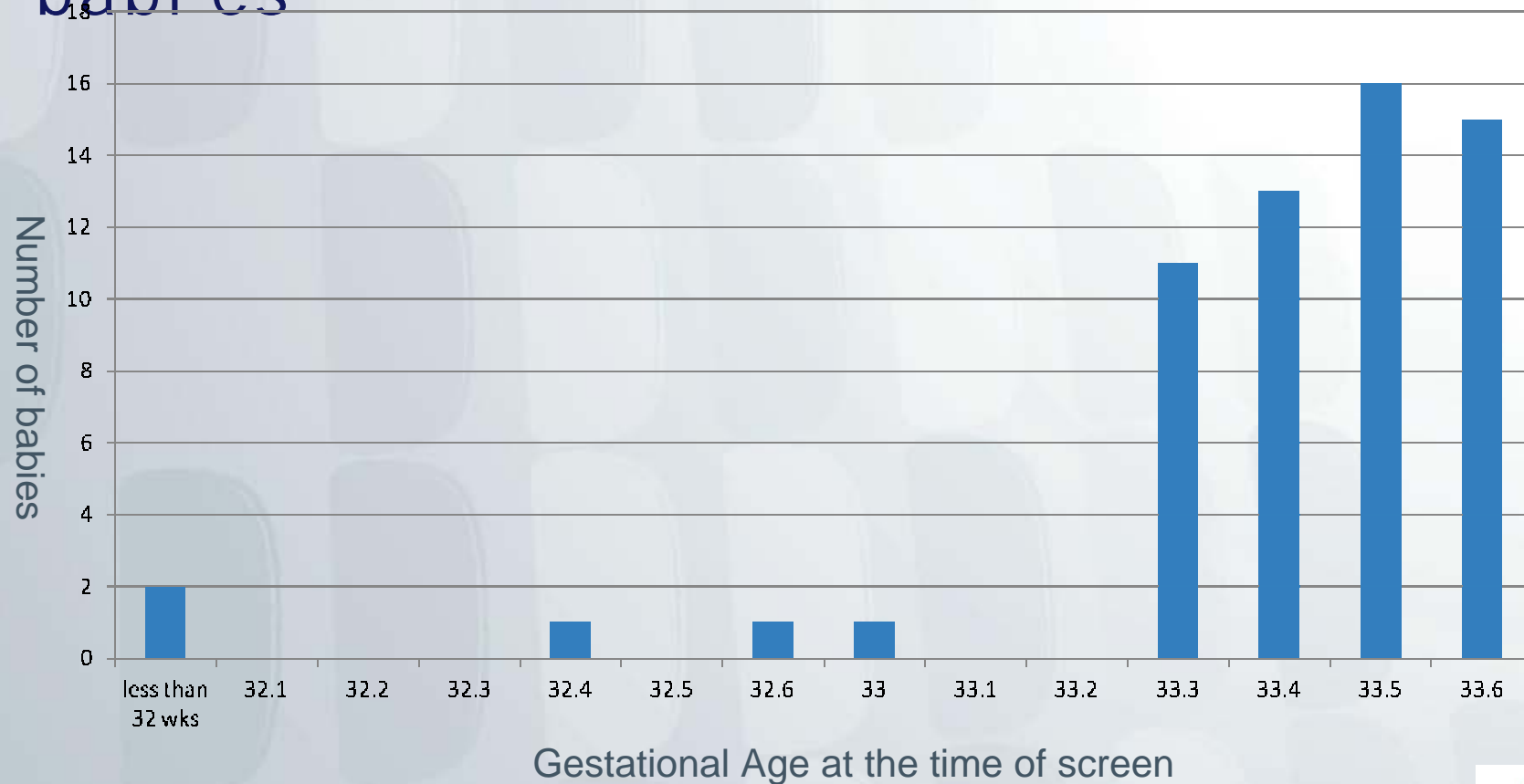
Screen results

- 56 passed AABR1
- 5 were rescreened
 - 1 referred
 - Diagnosis not yet determined

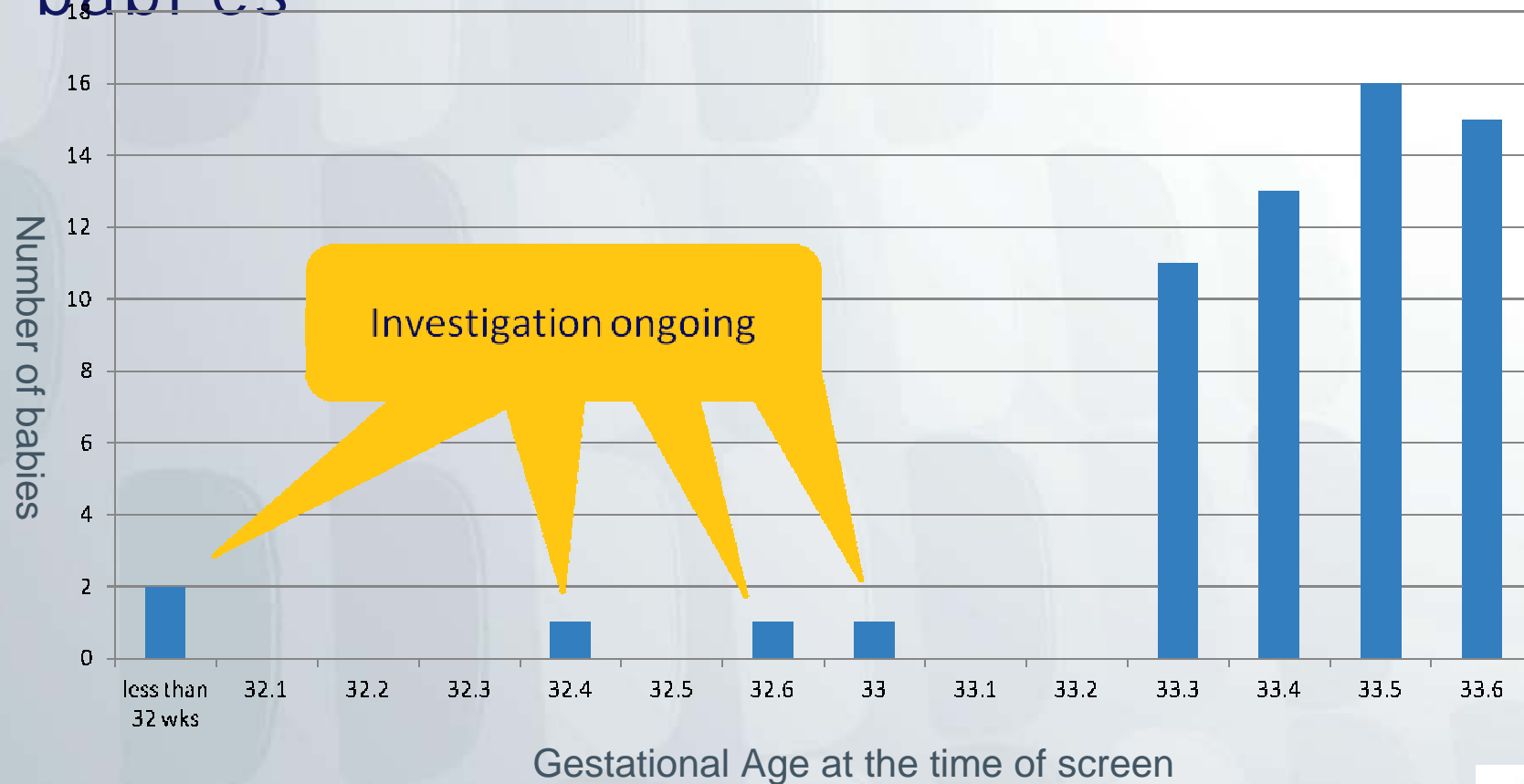
Location

- All screened in SCN or NICU
 - 67% in one of the original 4 tertiary NICUs
- 13 VISHP sites involved

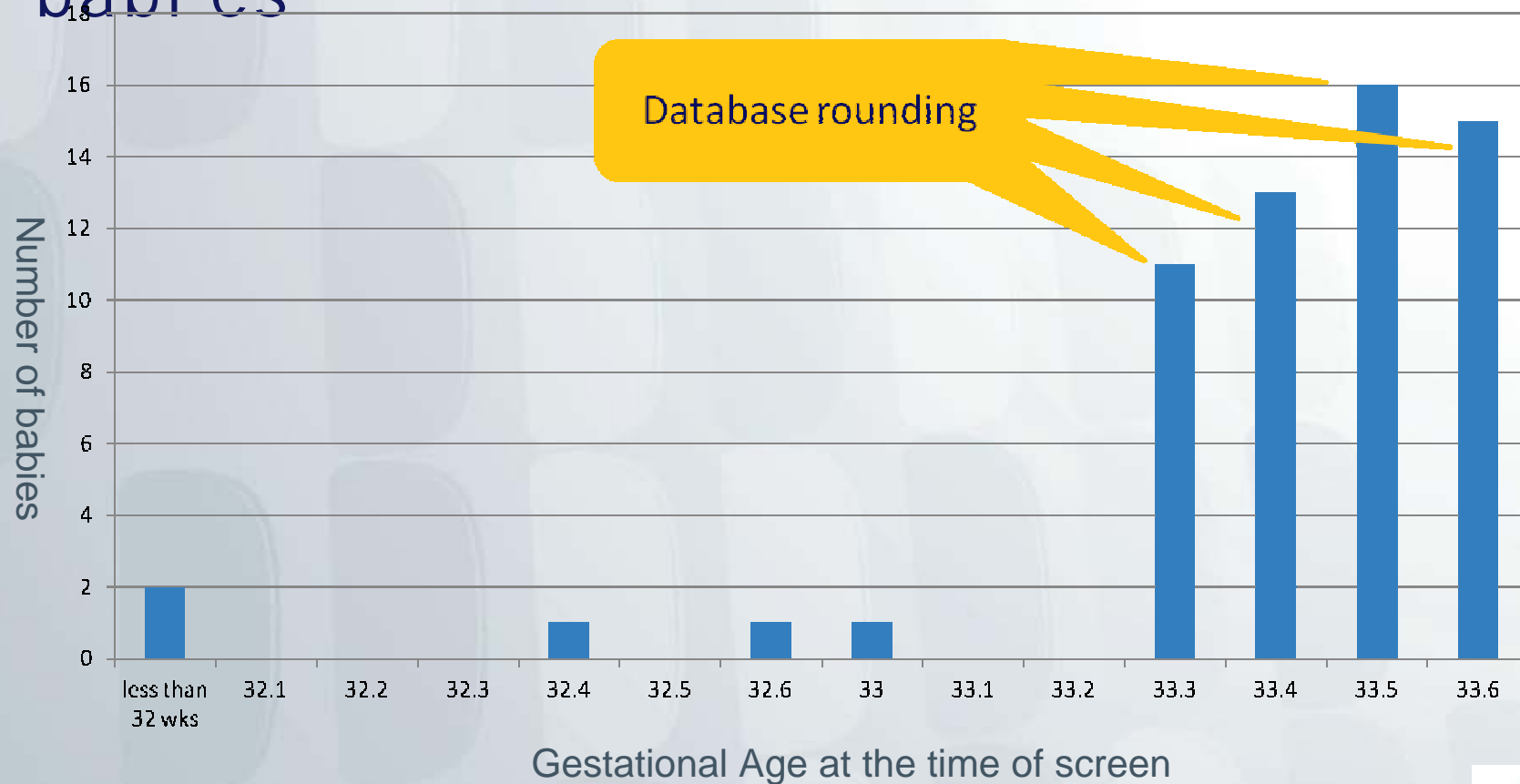
Corrected Gestational Age at the time of screening ineligible babies



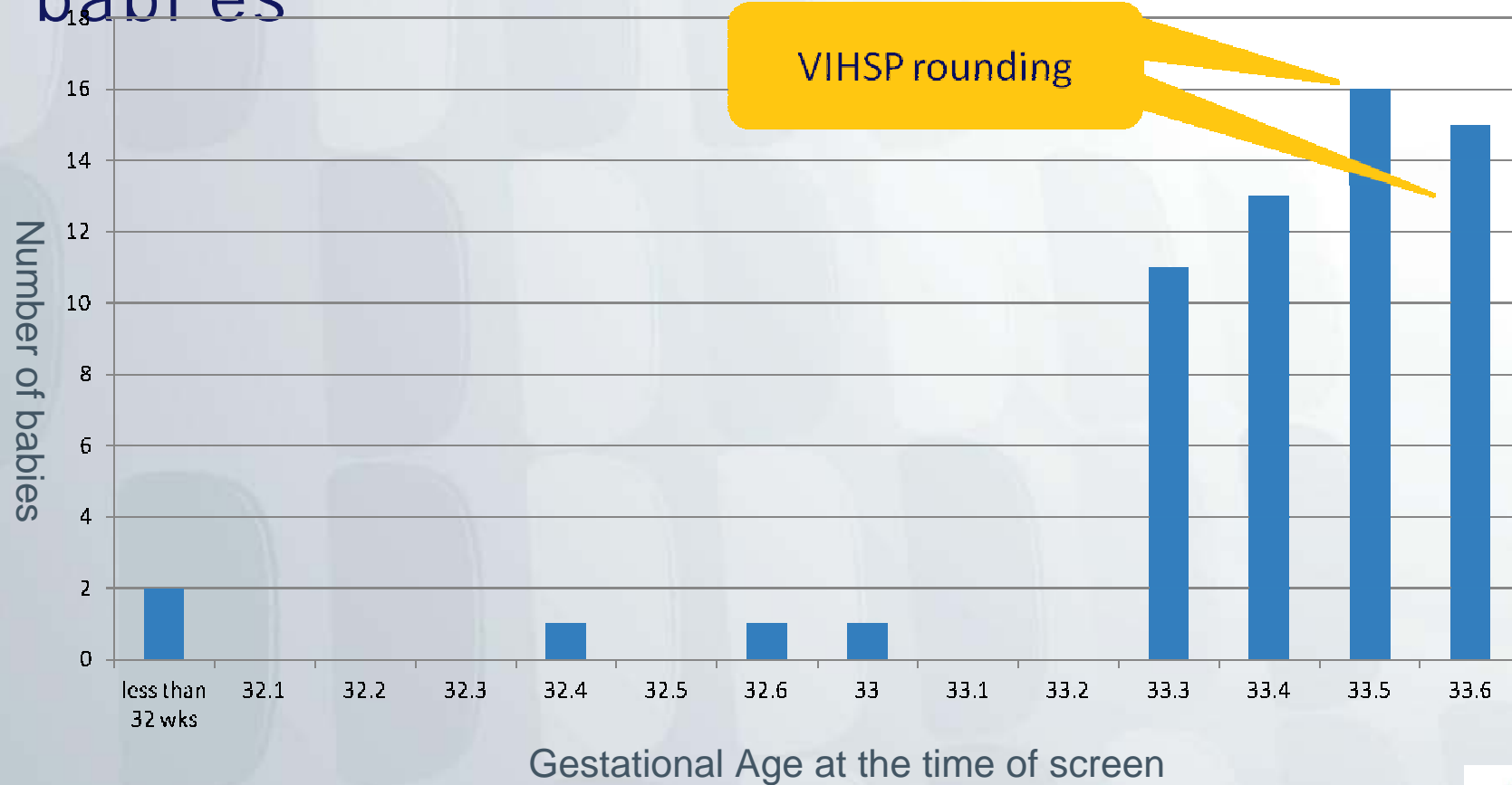
Corrected Gestational Age at the time of screening ineligible babies



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Corrected Gestational Age at the time of screening ineligible babies



Area Coordinator comments –

“Why do we think we are screening?”

- They are on the TO DO list!
- Discharge nurses weren't sure the baby would go to another hospital or home.
- Nervousness around transferring to another site
- Staff don't want to lose screening skills.
- Different source for GA



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Screened: 34 – 36 weeks

Number of babies GA <36wks	% of all births (~ 75,000) GA <36wks
5033	6.7%

Number of babies screened GA <36wks	% of all births (~ 75,000) screened GA <36wks
2100	2.85%

% of babies born GA <36wks who were screened GA <36wks
42.9%

Screened 34 – 36 weeks: Results

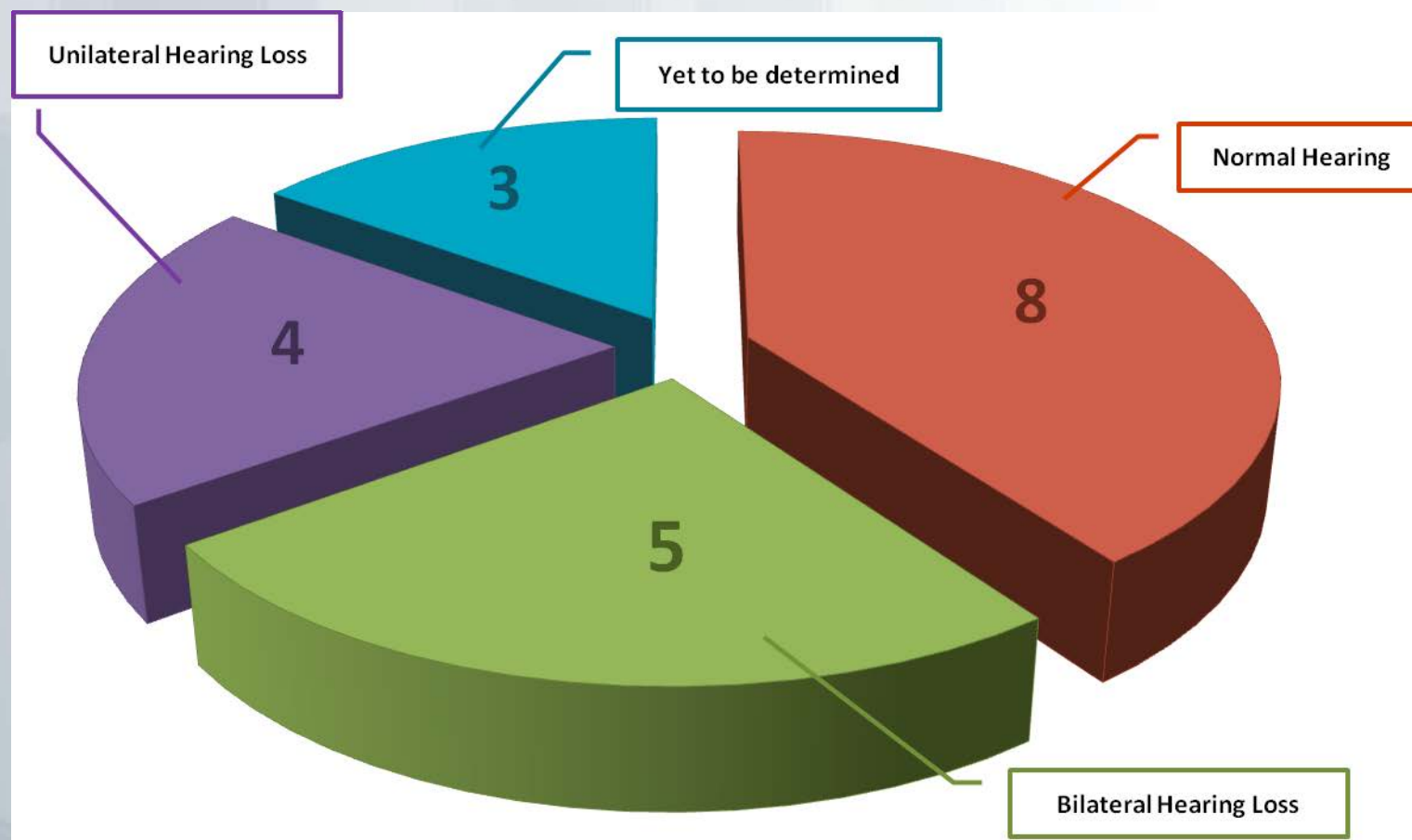
Screen results

- 1934 passed AABR1
- 166 rescreened
 - 20 referred to Audiology

Location

- 50 babies in regular post natal wards
- 58% VI HSP sites involved

Screened 34 – 36 weeks: Referral Outcomes



Screening comments

— screening Young Babies

- Sleeping, settled into feeding
- Quicker screens
- Family request
- Discharge plan with underlying pressures on SCN beds
- Intuition
- Discharged home very young and sometimes in post-natal wards



Conclusions – Screening Too Young and Young Babies



- Database update
 - Improvement in GA field to include week and day notified to VIHSP
 - Should the database reject screen for an ineligible baby?
- Ongoing education of staff & stakeholders
 - Encourage staff to utilise the VIHSP 'to do' list
 - Reduce 'urgency' of early screening
 - Continue to encourage staff to provide families with the best opportunities to access a hearing screen.
- Monitoring
 - Continued monitoring of age at time of screen





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