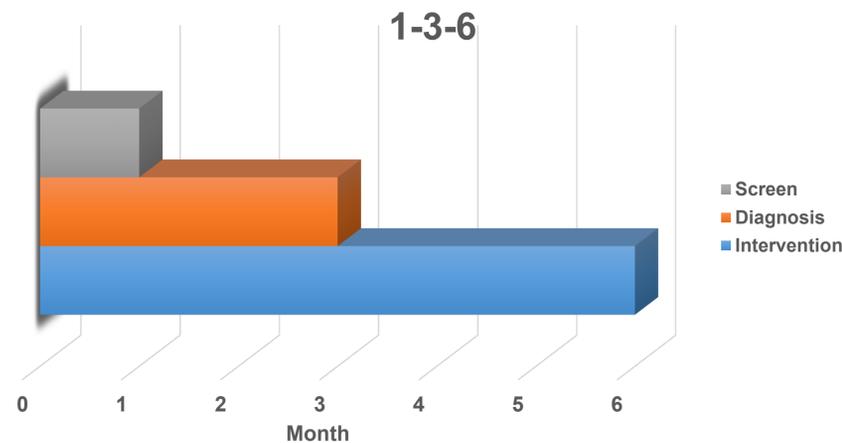




## INTRODUCTION

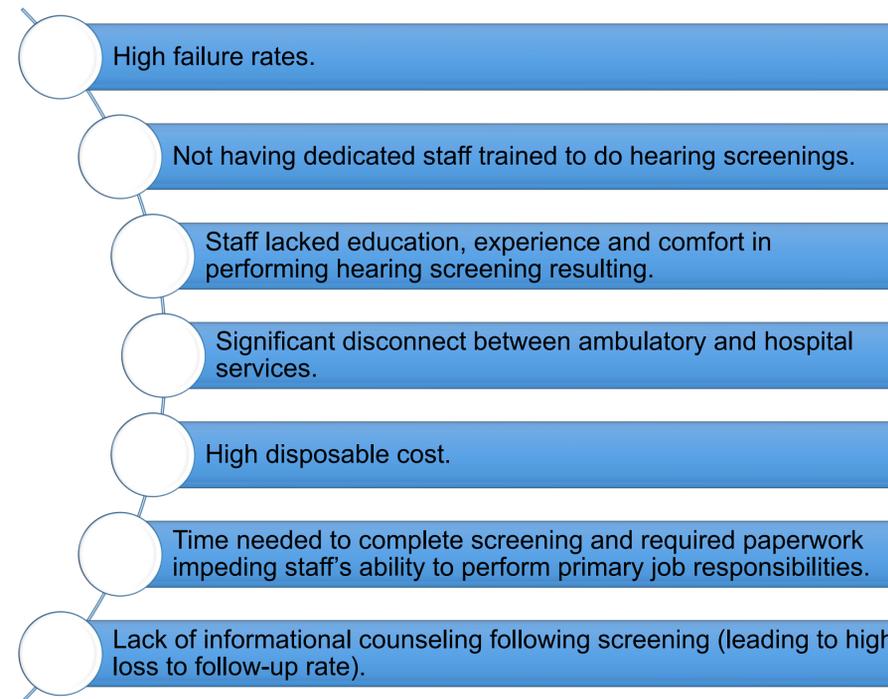
- Hearing loss is the number one birth defect among children.
- Three out of every 1000 children are born with some degree of permanent hearing impairment.
- There are significant consequences of delayed diagnosis and failure to obtain timely intervention including communication impairment and negative socioeconomic effects.
- Universal Newborn Hearing Screening (UNHS) was implemented in order to ensure that all infants are identified early so that appropriate intervention can occur and this critical timeline can be met.
- UNHS is a critical hospital program that is designed to ensure all infants born have their hearing screening prior to discharge.
- ~2500 infants at the University of Kentucky screened annually.
- Team approach engaging both ambulatory and hospital services, we redesigned our UNHS program in order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the UNHS program.

## National Guidelines



## PROCESS

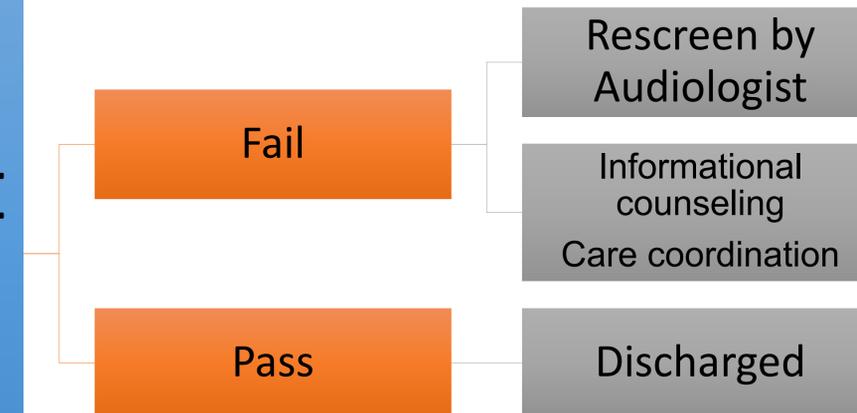
Over the course of a year, hospital leadership and specialists met to discuss the UNHS program. Identified several areas of improvement.



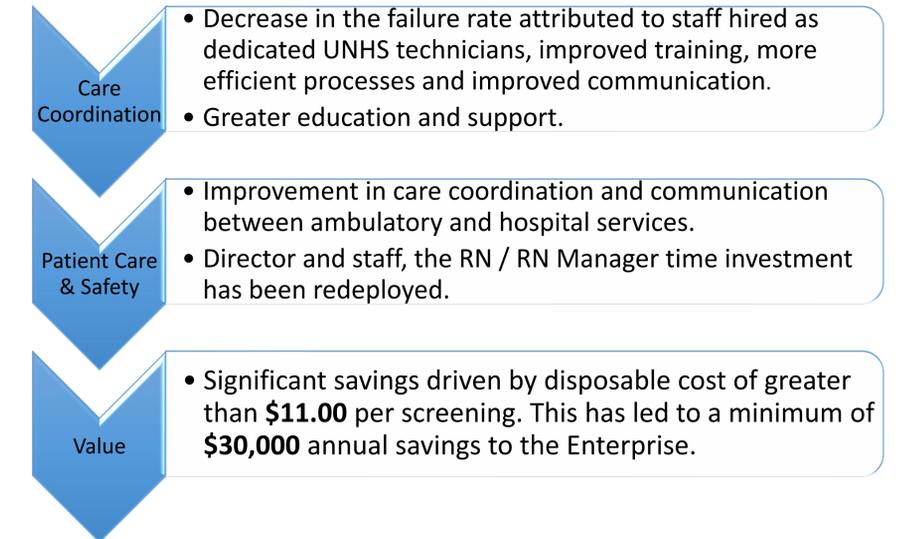
### Program Redesign

- Two technicians would be assigned solely to the UNHS program.
- New equipment (greater accuracy & cost reduction)

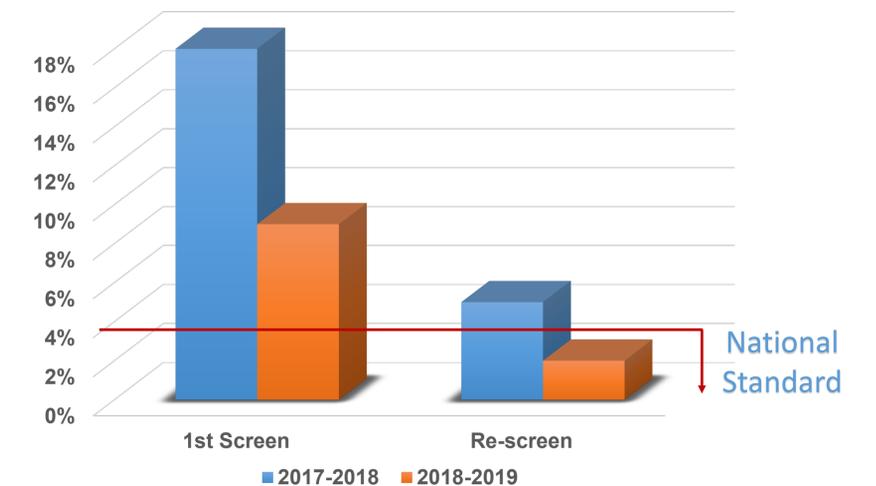
## 2 Tiered Approach



## RESULTS



## FAILURE RATES



## CMV SCREENING

It is well-known that congenital CMV infection can result in permanent childhood hearing loss. As a result of this new program, Pediatric Infectious Disease and Audiology work closely to ensure that all newborns who fail their screening now receive targeted CMV testing.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The success of the new hearing screening program has been a significant team effort. We would like to acknowledge the dedication and commitment of the entire team, including Kayla Greene and Missy Sanderson (our hearing screening technicians), along with our Audiologists.