

June 22nd, 2014
Toronto, ON

Dear Angela

We wanted to say thank you to you and Vivosonic for your kindness and professionalism when helping us with our hard of hearing son.

Our journey in getting our son diagnosed was one full of anguish and uncertainties, but thanks to you, also full of hope. Jon was referred at birth after his infant hearing screening test to receive ABR test to verify if he indeed had a hearing loss. The ABR test required him to be in deep sleep for at least 2 hours. Our son was one of the many babies who did not sleep longer than an hour, either night or day. After five attempts at regular sleep ABR without any results, we were referred for a sedated ABR at [renowned Canadian hospital]*. At that time, he was already 6 months, which put us right at the end of the period considered early intervention for a hearing loss diagnosis. We were further told that sedated ABR would take at least another month to schedule and we were invited to do another regular sleep ABR at [renowned Canadian hospital]*. At this attempt, the audiologist only got reliable results for Jon's right ear. Our frustration with the process was building up, as we were losing precious time in aiding our son.

After researching the internet for the newest technology in newborn and early child ABR diagnosis, we found Vivosonic and the possibility of having an accurate test without sedation and with a baby that is awake sounded wonderful. We called the Canadian office and amazingly, we were invited into the office to have a test done. Jon actually had his test done by Angela Bottley, the clinical trainer, in his car seat as I was driving around! This happened in half the time that we spent at the hospital to get partial diagnosis. When we got final diagnosis through another regular sleep ABR at [renowned Canadian hospital]*, the results were identical with those provided by the Vivosonic ABR testing.

Our son received his hearing aids when he was 7 months old. If the hospitals where we attempted for 7 times to have ABR done had had a back-up option such as the Vivosonic testing system for babies such as Jon, we would not have lost so many months in the intervention of our son.

We are grateful and thankful that we found Vivosonic and some of the frustration of this very emotional journey has been eased by the kindness and generosity of your help.

Since our son's diagnosis, we have met numerous families of new-born babies that were going through the same frustrations and were having a difficult time getting results. They were either referred for a sedated ABR or further regular sleep ABR, both forcing them further into the future and thus losing precious hearing time for the babies. It would just be so easy and comfortable if these families would have access to Vivosonic testing for their infants.

With gratitude

Anca Badea

*Hospital name has been omitted.