

BY adding to

Article - Health - General  
Section 19-308.5  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1996 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Insurance  
Section 15-817  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1997 Volume and 1998 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article - Health - General**

13-601.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) "Risk factor" includes any of the following factors that an infant may display and are considered relevant in determining the possibility of a hearing impairment:

- (1) An admission for more than 48 hours to a neonatal intensive care nursery;
- (2) An anatomical malformation that involves the head or neck, including:
  - (i) A dysmorphic appearance;
  - (ii) A morphologic abnormality of the pinna;
  - (iii) An overt or submucous cleft palate; and
  - (iv) Any syndromal or nonsyndromal abnormality;
- (3) A severe asphyxia, including:
  - (i) An infant with an apgar score of 0-3 who fails to institute spontaneous respiration within 10 minutes; or
  - (ii) An infant with hypotonia that persists during the 1st 2 hours of the infant's life;
- (4) A bacterial meningitis, especially H. influenza;
- (5) A birth weight of less than 1500 grams;
- (6) A congenital perinatal infection, including cytomegalovirus, herpes, rubella, syphilis, and toxoplasmosis;