

# Angle tolerance test (ATT)

## What is an angle tolerance test (ATT)?

An ATT is also known as the car seat test. This test checks if a child can sit in a car seat when they are discharged from the hospital. The test checks your child's breathing, heart rate and oxygen when they are in the car seat.

## Who needs an ATT?

The test is for children:

- Born earlier than 37 weeks.
- With low birthweight, less than 5 pounds.
- On oxygen or heart monitors.
- Whose doctors decide they need it.

## When does the test happen?

The test is scheduled for a few days before discharge.

## Where does the test happen?

The test is in your child's hospital room in the car seat they will go home in.

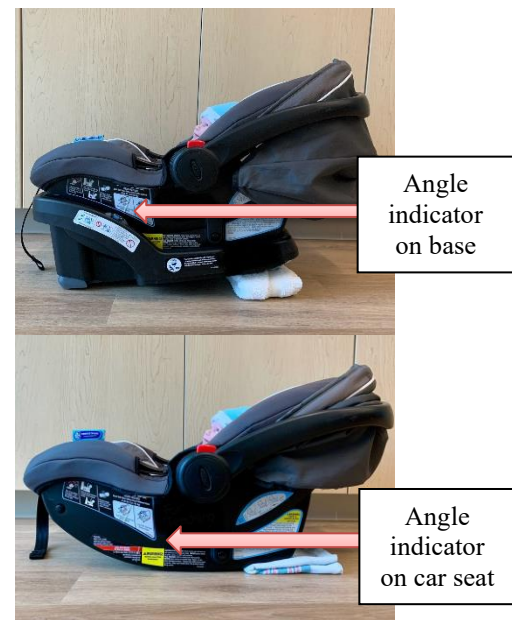
## How should I get my child ready for the test?

Your child should be fed, changed and burped before the test. If your child is on a continuous feed, the feed can run during the test. Your child and the car seat cannot be moved after the test starts. The test starts over if you have to move your child or the seat.

## How do I set up the test?

The car seat should be on the floor. Car seats do not sit at the correct angle. The angle of the seat must be corrected with towels stacked under it before starting the test.

- Find the angle indicator on the sides of the care seat or base. Check the car seat manual for help. You should do the test like the car seat will be in the car. Use the base for the test if you plan to use the base in the car.
- Stack towels under the back of the car seat until the angle indicator is correct. Check the car seat manual for help.
- The test must be redone if the angle indicator is not correct.



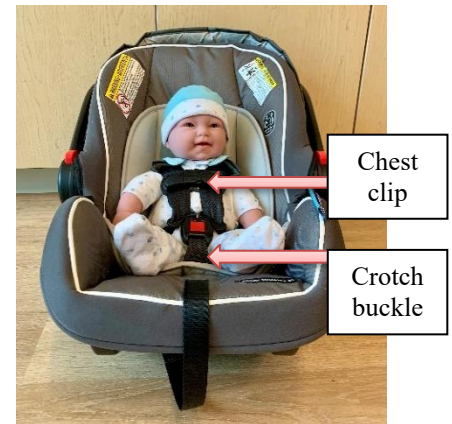
**In case of an urgent concern or emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency department right away.**

# Angle tolerance test (ATT), continued

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Follow these guidelines to safely buckle your child into the car seat.

- Shoulder strap level should be below or at the shoulders.
- The chest clip should be armpit level.
- Harness straps should be tight. You should not be able to fold and pinch the strap at the shoulders or hips.
- The buckle between the legs (crotch buckle) should be close to your child. They should not sit on it. Call the car seat company to help if you cannot find the correct position.
- You should only use pads that come with the car seat.
- Your child's back and butt should be flat against the car seat.
- Your child cannot be wrapped in blankets or thick cloths. You can cover them with a blanket after they are buckled safely.



## What happens during the test?

**It is important that only you set up the test by buckling your child into the car seat.** The nurse will monitor your child in the car seat during the test. Your child will have on a heart monitor and pulse oximeter (pulse ox) for 90 to 120 minutes. A licensed clinical staff member starts the test.

You or another caregiver must stay with your child for the first 15 minutes of the test but you are welcome to stay for the whole test. Do not move your child or the car seat once the test starts. If you move them, we will have to start over. Children often cry, but the test should not cause pain. You are welcome to sing or talk to your child or hold their hand during the test for comfort.

## What happens after the test?

The nurse will tell you right away if your child passed or did not pass the test. The results are put in your child's chart for discharge.

## What if my child does not pass the test?

If your child fails the test, an appointment is scheduled with a certified passenger safety technician. The technician helps correct the issues your child had during the test. Your child will redo the test.

**This teaching sheet contains general information only. Talk with your child's doctor or a member of your child's healthcare team about specific care of your child.**

**In case of an urgent concern or emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency department right away.**