

COMPARING HEARING OUTCOMES FOR RURAL vs. URBAN INFANTS

Infants born in rural communities experience significant delays in accessing hearing healthcare compared to their urban peers. These delays can have long-term impacts on their health and development.



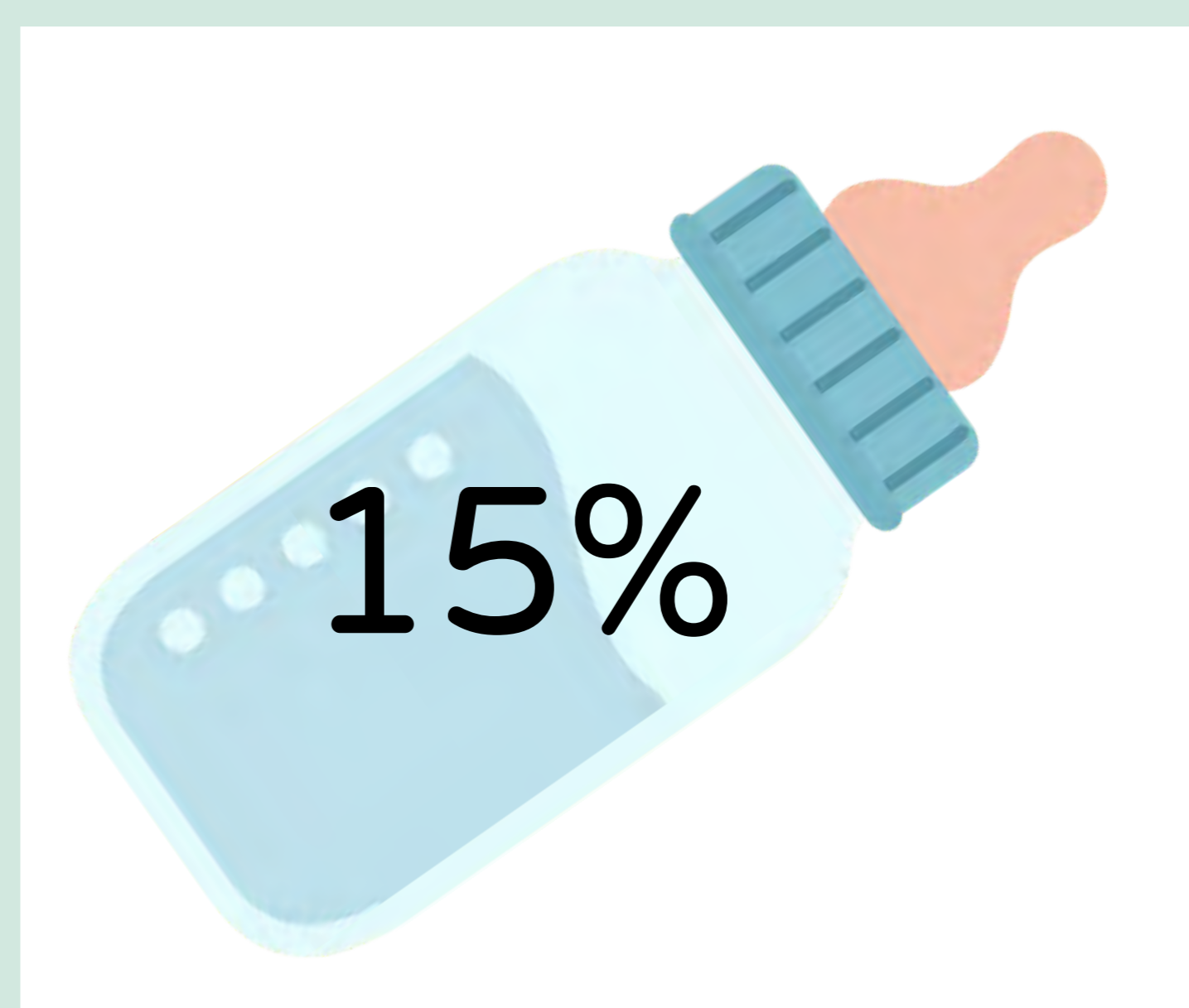
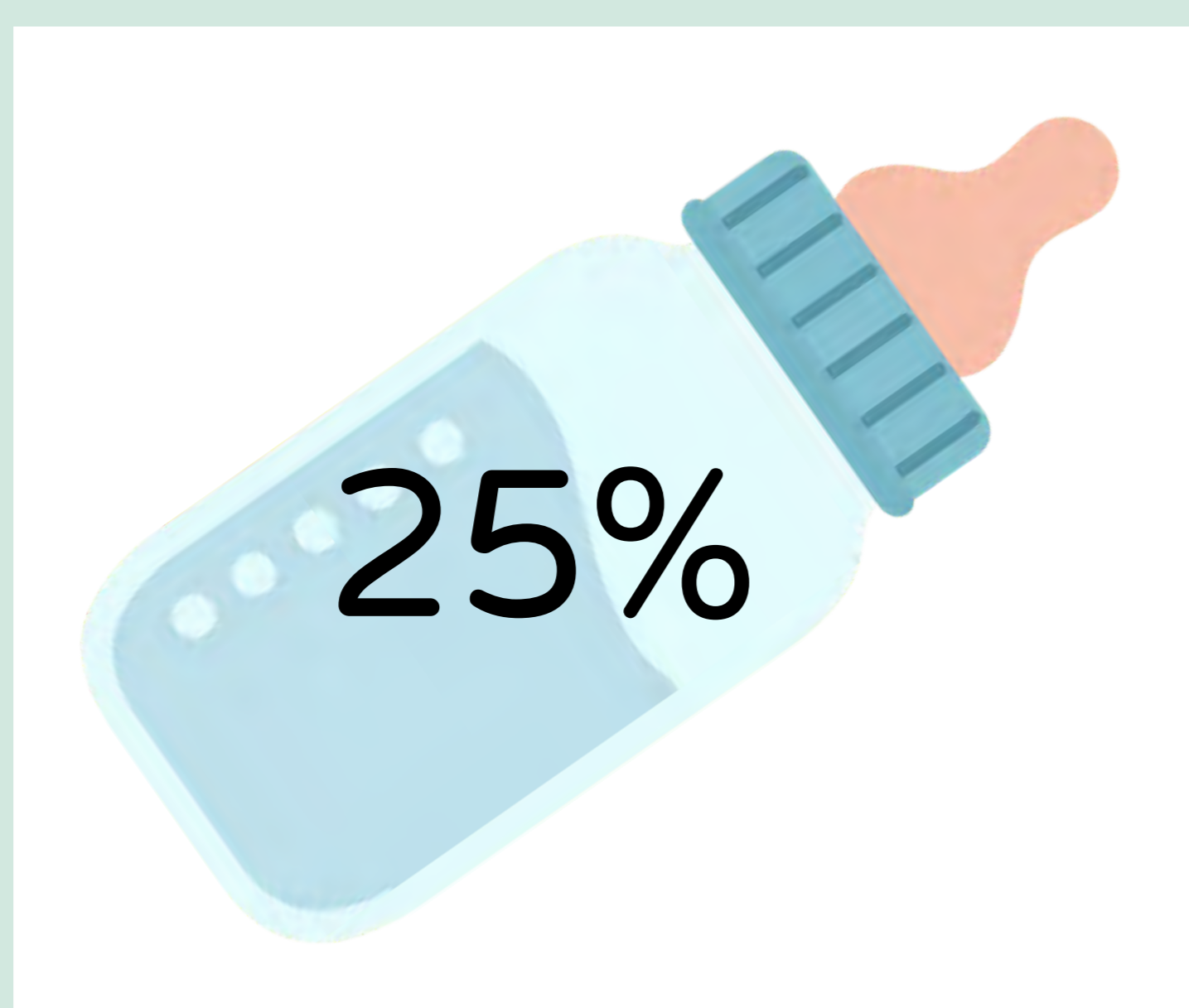
RURAL



URBAN



Lost to follow-up after infant hearing screening



Average time until diagnosis after birth

9 months



5 months



Average time to receive hearing aids

2x longer



What can we do to improve timely access to care for rural infants?

Patient navigation has been shown to improve the percent of infants receiving diagnostic testing. **93%** of infants in navigation received timely diagnostic testing compared to 68% in the standard of care.

