

BEST-PRACTICE HEARING ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

A comprehensive hearing evaluation helps determine the type and degree of hearing loss, identify possible medical concerns and guide appropriate treatment recommendations.

Case History and Ear Examination

- ☐ Hearing, medical and communication history reviewed
- ☐ Hearing concerns and symptoms discussed
- ☐ Otoscopy completed
- ☐ Ear canals and eardrums examined
- ☐ Excessive wax, foreign bodies or abnormalities identified

Middle-Ear Assessment

Immittance testing completed where clinically appropriate

- ☐ Tympanometry performed
- ☐ Acoustic reflex testing performed where indicated

Inner-Ear Assessment

- ☐ DPAOE testing conducted

Hearing Assessment

- ☐ Air-conduction thresholds obtained
- ☐ Bone-conduction thresholds obtained
- ☐ Appropriate masking used where required
- ☐ Word-recognition testing completed
- ☐ Speech in Noise testing completed
- ☐ Uncomfortable Loudness Levels assessed where appropriate
- ☐ Most Comfortable Listening Levels assessed where appropriate

Results and Recommendations

- ☐ Results explained clearly
- ☐ Type and degree of hearing loss discussed
- ☐ Impact on everyday communication discussed
- ☐ Additional diagnostic testing considered
- ☐ Hearing aid evaluation recommended if appropriate
- ☐ Copy of results provided where applicable

Medical Referral Indicators

Referral to an appropriate medical specialist should be considered where any of the following are identified:

- ☐ Visible congenital or traumatic ear deformity
- ☐ Active ear drainage within the past 90 days
- ☐ Sudden or rapidly progressive hearing loss
- ☐ Sudden or recent unilateral hearing loss
- ☐ Acute, recurrent or chronic dizziness
- ☐ Ear pain or discomfort
- ☐ Excessive cerumen or a foreign body
- ☐ Significant or unexplained air-bone gap
- ☐ Asymmetrical hearing or asymmetrical speech results
- ☐ Any other findings requiring medical investigation

Hearing
Assessment
Checklist