

Audiology Department Patient Information



The Information Standard Certified Member

Information

If you need this information in large print, easy read, on audiotape or in another language please call 0800 7838058 or e-mail pals@dchft.nhs.uk

If you wish to obtain a list of the sources used to develop this information leaflet please call 0800 7838058 or e-mail patient.info@dchft.nhs.uk

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What to expect at a hearing aid assessment appointment



What will happen at my appointment?

When you go to the Hospital you will be seen by an Audiologist, who may be accompanied by a student Audiologist. Your appointment will last up to 1 hour.

Before the Audiologist tests your hearing they will ask you some questions about your hearing and check your ears. The hearing test will last around 20 minutes. The audiologist will place headphones over your ears and will ask you to press a button each time you hear a sound and to release it as soon as it stops. Please do this even for extremely faint sounds.

The audiologist may then place a head band with a vibrating pad behind your ear (called a bone conductor). This pad transmits sound through the bones of your skull to the cochlea in the inner ear. Again, you will be asked to press a button each time that you hear a noise. At some point during the test the audiologist might play a rushing noise into one ear to cover up the sounds on that side while they test your other ear.

The audiologist will explain your test results to you and will be able to discuss whether hearing aids are likely to help you. If you decide to go ahead with a hearing aid we may need to take an impression of your ear. This involves placing a foam stop in your ear canal and filling the ear with a putty material. This takes a few minutes to set and is removed. The impression will be sent away to be made into a mould.

What will happen next?

The Audiologist will write a report about your hearing. This will be emailed to your GP. You may have a copy of this if you wish. The Audiologist may be able to give this to you at the end of the appointment or they may arrange to post it to you.

If you are to have a hearing aid fitted in the future we will arrange another appointment for this to be done. The appointment is likely to be 6- 8 weeks after the initial appointment. This allows time for the ear mould to be made.

Should I bring somebody with me?

You are more than welcome to bring a partner, friend, relative or carer with you. Indeed, it can be useful to have somebody else there to take in the information.

What can I do to prepare for the appointment?

It is helpful to spend a few minutes considering the main situations that you are having difficulty hearing in.

Who should I contact if I need more information?

Please do not hesitate to contact the Audiology department if you have any questions on 01305 255563 or email audiology@dchft.nhs.uk