

Audiology Department Patient Information

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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 fitting appointment

What will happen at my appointment?

When you go to the Hospital you will be seen by an Audiologist. Your appointment will last up to 1 hour.

The hearing aid will fit behind your ear and will be attached to either a solid custom mould or a thin tube which will fit into your ear. The first thing that we will do is to look in your ears and check how well the mould or tube fits. We will make adjustments if necessary and will then fit the hearing aid to the mould/ tube. As your hearing aid will be a digital model it will be plugged into the computer to allow us to adjust the settings.

The Audiologist will perform a test to assess the hearing aid's performance in your ear.

This involves putting a very thin tube slightly into your ear canal. You will be asked to look straight ahead and will hear some sounds. You are not required to respond to these noises. The hearing aid will then be inserted and you will hear more noises whilst adjustments are made to the hearing aid. We will spend some time familiarising you with the controls of the aid and practising inserting it into your ear. You will be provided with lots of written information to take away with you. Please feel free to ask questions at any point.

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.

Who should I contact if I need more information?

Please do not hesitate to contact the Department on 01305 255563. You may also contact us by email using the following email address: audiology@dchft.nhs.uk

Points of note when fitted with a new hearing aid:

- Digital hearing aids usually sound echoey at first. This echo will decrease with time, especially if the hearing aid is worn often
- Gradual and consistent use is very important (try to wear the aid for at least 1- 2 hours every day to start with and then build up the time of use)
- Expect everything to sound louder than what you have been used to before. Some sounds such as putting a cup down on a hard surface or the click of a light switch may initially seem very prominent, but they will become less obtrusive with time
- It's important to follow simple hearing tactics like:
 1. Always face the person you want to hear
 2. Keep making use of your lip-reading abilities