

Patient information

About your Audiology Appointment for Diagnostic Tests

Audiology Department - Aintree Hospital

General information

You have been referred to Audiology for additional tests, which will provide your clinician with further information regarding your ears and your hearing. Please report to the Audiology Reception desk, clinic 4 on your arrival.

Many of the tests are quite lengthy. The equipment and an Audiologist have been booked for you so if you are unable to attend, please let us know so that we can allocate your slot to somebody else.

We are a teaching hospital, so on occasion and with your consent, a student may be present at your appointment. If you have any objections to this please let us know – this will not affect your treatment in any way.

If you have been referred for these tests by the Ear Nose and Throat (ENT) team, your results will be available for the doctor to discuss with you at your follow up appointment. Please check that you have a follow up appointment with ENT.

If you have been referred by an Audiologist, we will normally discuss the results with you at the end of the test.

About you

If you are visually impaired, have problems with mobility or need an interpreter; please let us know prior to your appointment so we can tailor the appointment to meet your individual needs.

Types of Diagnostic Tests

Auditory Brainstem Test (ABR Test)

This test shows us how the sound travels along your hearing nerve to your brain.

- It is a painless procedure and you will be asked to lie on a bed or sit comfortably in a chair, relax and listen to some clicking sounds.
- We will place an electrode behind each ear and on your forehead. These electrodes will pick up the information we need in order to tell us how your hearing nerve is working.

- **Please do not wear heavy make up for this test as it may affect the results.**
- The test takes approximately 45 to 60 minutes to complete.

Cortical Evoked Response Audiometry (CERA Test)

This test allows us to record the quietest sounds your brain is able to respond to.

- We will place an electrode behind each ear and on your forehead and you will hear some whistles and hums. These electrodes will pick up the information we need in order to tell us how well you can hear.
- Please do not wear heavy make up for this test as it may affect the results.
- The test can take up to two hours to complete.
- **It is important that you bring a book or other reading material with you to this appointment.**

Speech Audiogram

- This test helps us determine how well you understand speech sounds.
- We will place headphones on you and you will hear a list of words. Between each word there will be a pause and you will be asked to repeat the word you heard.
- Some of the words listed will be very quiet so don't worry if you do not hear all the words clearly.

Tympanometry / Stapedial Reflex

- This test tells us how your middle ear is functioning and how the tiny muscles in your middle ear respond to sound.
- We will place a probe in your ear and you may feel a slight build-up of pressure followed by a few loud bleeps.
- The test takes around 10 to 15 minutes.

Feedback

Your feedback is important to us and helps us influence care in the future.

Following your discharge from hospital or attendance at your outpatient appointment you will receive a text asking if you would recommend our service to others. Please take the time to text back, you will not be charged for the text and can opt out at any point. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

If you have any concerns or queries about our service, please let us know and we will do our best to help you.

Further information

The Audiology Department can be contacted on:

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All Trust approved information is available on request in alternative formats, including other languages, easy read, large print, audio, Braille, moon and electronically.

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