

Patient information

Provision of In the Ear Hearing Aids

Audiology Department – Aintree Hospital

There may be cases where the usual behind-the-ear (BTE) hearing aid is unsuitable for an individual because of outer ear anatomical defects.

These may be either congenital or acquired, such as a surgically altered ear post-surgery for cancer.

In such cases Audiology can prescribe and fit an In the Ear Hearing Aid (ITE) if the client is suitable.

In some cases assistive listening devices (ALDs) and / or communication amplifier devices may be more suitable to the individual patient's needs.

The Audiologist will assess the need for an ITE hearing aid or a communication amplifier, taking into account the defect of the ear, the client's dexterity, and vision, motivation to wear a hearing aid and the level and type of hearing loss.

If an ITE hearing aid is indicated an impression of the ear will be taken and sent to the manufacturer for processing.

This involves putting a small foam stopper in the ear and then filling the ear with soft putty that hardens after several minutes and can then be removed.

An appointment for the fitting of the aid will be sent out once the device is ready.

These devices use a smaller battery than conventional BTE hearing aids so can only be obtained from the Audiology Department directly.

They can either be collected in person or sent out by post.

These devices usually carry a three year guarantee. However these devices are more prone to faults due to secretions from the ear and as these devices are custom made, should they become faulty they may need to be sent back to the manufacturer for repair. In this case you will be without your hearing aid for a few weeks whilst it is getting repaired.

All lost hearing aids and aids damaged due to negligence will incur a charge for replacement.

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.

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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