

Hearing Screening Skill Assessment: Pure Tone Audiometry Clinic Settings

Purpose: To identify children with suspected hearing loss.

Name _____ Date Trained _____

Observed by _____ Date Observed _____

Equipment Needed	Yes	No	Comments
1. Pure tone audiometer with current calibration identified.			

Facilities	Yes	No	Comments
2. Quiet room that is free from visual distractions.			
3. An environment noise level check has been conducted to ensure the room is quiet enough to perform pure tone audiometry.			

Procedure Preparation (for children 3 years of age and older)	Yes	No	Comments
4. Screener explains the procedure			
5. Screener lays headphones on the table, facing the child and sets dials of the audiometer to 2000 Hz and maximum volume. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Screener has the child practice raising either hand when a tone is heard. ▪ If the child is unable to hear the tone at maximum volume, screener stops the procedure and provides a referral to the child's primary health care provider. 			

Visual Inspections	Yes	No	Comments
6. If child is able to hear tone, screener performs a visual inspection of the external ears. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Screener refers any observed concerns to nurse or primary care provider ▪ Screener does not proceed with screening if child has signs of infection (redness, drainage coming from the ears, ear pain) and immediately refers the child to their primary care provider 			

PURE TONE AUDIOMETRY CLINIC SETTINGS

Screening Procedure	Yes	No	Comments																								
7. Child is positioned so they cannot visualize the audiometer and screener.																											
8. Screener places the headphones snugly over the auditory canal of each ear, red headphone on the child's right ear and blue headphone on the left ear.																											
9. Screener sets decibel dial to 40 dB and frequency dial to 1000 Hz.																											
10. Screener sets the selector switch to "Right" and presents a conditioning tone of 40 dB at 1000 Hz. If the child hears the tone, proceed to next step. If child does not hear the tone, problem solve (see #14) and try again.																											
<p>11. Screener uses the following sweep for children 3 through 10 years of age:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="215 800 688 959"> <tr> <td>Volume (dB)</td> <td>25</td> <td>20</td> <td>20</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Frequency (Hz)</td> <td>500</td> <td>1000</td> <td>2000</td> <td>4000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Right Ear</td> <td>finish</td> <td>start</td> <td colspan="2">→</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Left Ear</td> <td>↑</td> <td colspan="2">←</td> <td>↓</td> </tr> </table>	Volume (dB)	25	20	20	20	Frequency (Hz)	500	1000	2000	4000	Right Ear	finish	start	→		Left Ear	↑	←		↓							
Volume (dB)	25	20	20	20																							
Frequency (Hz)	500	1000	2000	4000																							
Right Ear	finish	start	→																								
Left Ear	↑	←		↓																							
<p>12. Screener uses the following sweep for children 11 years and older:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="211 1083 699 1220"> <tr> <td>Volume (dB)</td> <td>25</td> <td>20</td> <td>20</td> <td>20</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Frequency (Hz)</td> <td>500</td> <td>1000</td> <td>2000</td> <td>4000</td> <td>6000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Right Ear</td> <td>finish</td> <td>start</td> <td colspan="3">→</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Left Ear</td> <td>↑</td> <td colspan="3">←</td> <td>↓</td> </tr> </table>	Volume (dB)	25	20	20	20	20	Frequency (Hz)	500	1000	2000	4000	6000	Right Ear	finish	start	→			Left Ear	↑	←			↓			
Volume (dB)	25	20	20	20	20																						
Frequency (Hz)	500	1000	2000	4000	6000																						
Right Ear	finish	start	→																								
Left Ear	↑	←			↓																						
13. Screener presents each tone for one to two seconds. Repeats tone once if child did not respond to the first presentation of the tone at each frequency.																											
<p>14. If child is not responding to the tones:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Screener stops and removes the headphones. ▪ Re-instructs the child on raising their hand in response to the tone. ▪ Repositions the headphones on the child's head and resumes screening. 																											
<p>15. Screener performs an immediate rescreen if child does not respond to one or more of the tones on the first presentation after ensuring the child understood instructions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presents all tones a second time--not just the tones the child missed. 																											

PURE TONE AUDIOMETRY CLINIC SETTINGS

Documentation of Screening Procedure	Yes	No	Comments
16. Screener correctly identifies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PASS: Child responds to all tones and decibels for age on screen or immediate rescreen ▪ REFER: Child does not respond to one or more tones on screen and immediate rescreen. 			
17. Screener correctly documents screening results.			

Referral - Rescreen	Yes	No	Comments
18. Screener identifies next steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ REFER child to medical provider for immediate evaluation of the middle ear. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If medical provider confirms the middle ear is clear of fluid and has no ongoing conditions that would affect hearing; child should be referred to audiology. ▪ If medical provider identifies fluid and/or infection, child can be scheduled for rescreen when medical condition is cleared, usually in 8-10 weeks after the initial referral. 			

Minnesota Department of Health
 Child and Teen Checkups
 651-201-3760
health.childteencheckups@state.mn.us
www.health.state.mn.us

09/2021

To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-3760.