

The risk for injury to your child undergoing these screening tests are rare.

What happens after the hearing screening?

- We will send you a letter with a copy of your child's Hearing Health Screening Report. We will advise you of what we found and our recommendations for your child's ongoing care
- In addition, we will contact you by phone or home visit, if your child needs to be seen by a doctor and/or audiologist
- If your child needs to see a doctor, we will send a copy of the Hearing Health Screening Report to your nominated family doctor
- We will forward a summary of your child's result to their school
- To assist with your child's learning at school, sometimes the school principal or specialist advisory visiting support teacher may ask for a copy of your child's Hearing Health Screening Report. We will forward this report upon their request
- Results from the screen will be used in statistics to help improve the Hearing Health Program and quality assurance. No one will be able to identify your child from the results used.

Contact details

If you have any questions regarding these tests, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Hearing Health team.

Ayr Health Service: 4783 0855

Charters Towers Health Service: 4787 0361

Hughenden Multi Purpose Health Service:
4741 2800

Ingham Community Health Service: 4720 3050

Joyce Palmer Health Service: 4752 5100

Townsville Community Health Service: 4433 9000



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Partnering with Consumers - This patient information brochure supports National Safety and Quality Health Service Standard 2. Consumers and/or carers provided feedback on this patient information.



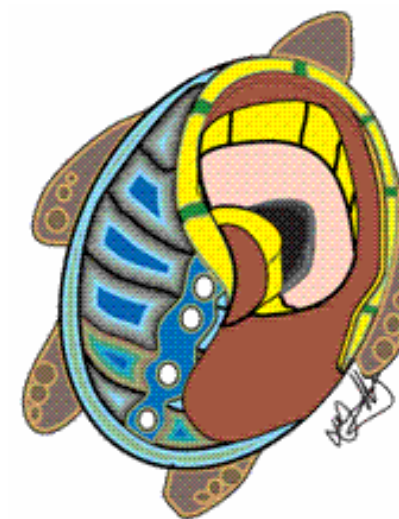
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Townsville
Hospital
and Health
Service

Hearing Health

*Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Health Program*

Hearing Health Screening (for children)
Patient Eligibility and Consent Information



Queensland
Government

Important information to read before giving consent to hearing health screening

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Your local Indigenous Hearing Health Team, will be screening for hearing loss and ear disease problems in children at your child's school during the year.

This consent information explains the screening tests we ask for your written consent to include your child in this program. Your consent will provide us with the authority to:

1. Screen and review within a twelve month period
2. Discuss results with school staff and other specialists in hearing health such as audiologists, ENT specialists, advisory visiting teachers, speech pathologists, doctors and Deadly Ears team
3. Conduct any follow-up procedures including mail, phone calls and/or home visits.

If your child already has a diagnosed hearing loss or ear problem which is being managed by an ear health specialist (e.g. audiologist, ENT specialist or Australian Hearing Services) then this screening program is not intended for your child. Please ensure you make contact with that specialist if your child is experiencing any current ear/hearing problems.

If your child is away from school on the day of screening, we will see them when we visit for the review screening. It is important you return this consent form or they will not be able to participate in the school hearing screening or review.

If your child has missed out on this service, then parents/caregivers can make an appointment for a hearing appointment at the local health centre.

Who is eligible?

Children who are eligible for the screening program are those who:

- Identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
- Are in Prep, Grade 1, Grade 2, Grade 3 or Grade 6
- Or in any other grade, where there is a reasonable concern about their hearing capacity identified either by the parent or school staff.

For locations working in partnership with Deadly Ears (such as the Palm Island community), eligibility is for:

- Pre-Prep, Prep, Grade 1
- Or any older children, where the parent/caregiver or teachers have concerns about a child's hearing.

The consent form

- It is your right and responsibility to read all the information contained in this brochure before signing
- Please complete one screening consent form per child
- Fill in **all** the questions on the consent form
- If you have any questions feel free to phone your Indigenous Health Worker
- To correctly identify your child, a school representative will place a removable name band on your child's arm prior to the test.

The screening tests

There are three screening tests conducted on your child. The tests include Otoscopy, Tympanometry and Audiometry. All tests will be explained to your child before staff commence.

Otoscopy

Otoscopy is a simple and painless ear check using a special torch called the Otoscope. This torch helps to see the condition of the ear canal and eardrum. If a problem is found, such as blood, pus or wax build-up, the health professional will explain the problem, and refer your child to help.

Tympanometry

Tympanometry is a test of middle ear function, using a machine called Tympanometer. The Tympanometer is held at the opening of the ear canal to obtain an airtight seal. Your child may experience a feeling of mild discomfort when the Tympanometer is used.

Audiometry

Audiometry is a painless and simple test using an Audiometer. The test helps to find out if your child has adequate hearing for normal speech and language development. The Audiometer measures hearing by sending out different levels of sounds. Your child will need to wear earphones to hear these sounds. When your child hears the sound, he/she will be asked to make a visible sign.